

JPRS 84128

15 August 1983

Southeast Asia Report

No. 1325

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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CONTENTS**BRUNEI**

- Brunei's Future in ASEAN Viewed
(Joe Fernandez; ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW, Jul 83) 1

INDONESIA

- Growing Economic Crisis Confronts Jakarta Government
(Dilip Mukerjee; BUSINESS TIMES, 4 Jul 83) 4
- Indonesia Aims for Strong Industrial Sector
(BUSINESS TIMES, 11 Jul 83) 6
- Need Seen for Legislation on Intelligence Service
(KOMPAS, 8 Jun 83) 7
- Development of Strong Defense Industry Made 'First Priority'
(HARIAN UMUM AB, 2 Jun 83) 9
- Eastern Europe Market Potential Analyzed
(HARIAN UMUM AB, 1 Jun 83) 11
- Jakarta Sees a Reagan Boost for Development
(BUSINESS TIMES, 8 Jul 83) 13
- Jakarta Gets ADB Grant for Livestock Project
(BUSINESS TIMES, 4 Jul 83) 14
- Indonesia's Rubber Trade Controlled by Singapore
(BUSINESS TIMES, 5 Jul 83) 15
- New Non-Petroleum Export Strategy Considered
(KOMPAS, 8 Jun 83) 16
- Duties on Foreign Fishing Vessels Announced
(KOMPAS, 9 Jun 83) 19
- ASEAN Fertilizer Plant Likely To Operate in December
(BUSINESS TIMES, 11 Jul 83) 21

Indonesia Will Be Self-Sufficient in Oil by 1984 (BUSINESS TIMES, 11 Jul 83)	22
Biographic Information on Indonesian Personalities	23
Briefs	
New Patrol Boat	26

KAMPUCHEA

Editorial Says Sihanouk Maneuvers Help SRV (Editorial, Moulkhmer; MOUL KHMER, May-Jun 83)	27
Proposed Inclusion of Heng Samrin in Coalition Assailed (Sok Vannak; MOUL KHMER, May-Jun 83)	29

MALAYSIA

Malaysia's PAS Shrugs Off Asri's Departure (ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW, Jul 83)	31
High Profile Mahathir Mutes Criticism of U.S. (ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW, Jul 83)	33
Results of Mahathir's Trip to East Europe (ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW, Jul 83)	35
Major Foreign Ministry Changes Next Year (Zainah Anwar; NEW STRAITS TIMES, 1 Jul 83)	37
Counter Trade Unit Operating From July (THE BORNEO POST, 28 Jun 83)	38
Asri Appointed Hamin Central Leadership Council President (THE BORNEO POST, 4 Jul 83)	39
Sell Shares to Indians, Firm Told (Visa Veerasingam; NEW STRAITS TIMES, 4 Jul 83)	40
Hunt for Communists To Continue (THE BORNEO POST, 29 Jun 83)	41
MCA Mission: Unity of Malaysian Chinese With Nation (THE STAR, 29 Jun 83)	42
Government Going All Out To Industrialize Nation (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 3 Jul 83)	43
Trade Priority for Malaysian Missions Abroad (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 30 Jun 83)	44
Shi'ite Influence on Young Malaysian Students in U.S. (Rashid Bakar; NEW STRAITS TIMES, 1 Jul 83)	45

Islamic Bank Goes Into Operation (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 2 Jul 83)	46
Malaysia's Stand on the Common Fund (Hardev Kaur; BUSINESS TIMES, 30 Jun 83)	47
Poram Reportedly Boycotts Sales to India (BUSINESS TIMES, various dates)	48
STC Revision Expected, by Vong Nyam Ming Poram Denies Boycott	
Peninsula Trade Deficit \$1.5 Billion by End April (BUSINESS TIMES, 1 Jul 83)	50
Editorial Supports Use of Malaysian Language in Universities (Editorial; THE SARAWAK TRIBUNE, 2 Jul 83)	51
Technical Aid for Islamic Nations (SARAWAK TRIBUNE, 2 Jul 83)	52
Internal Squabbles in SNAP (Francis Siah; THE SARAWAK TRIBUNE, 29 Jun 83)	53
Malaysia Starts Counter Trade With Pakistan (THE SARAWAK TRIBUNE, 25 Jun 83)	55
Malaysian-Made Rifles in Five Years Predicted (Sabry Sharif; NEW STRAITS TIMES, 5 Jul 83)	56
Country Embarking on First Domestic Arms Production Project (Mak Joon Num; THE STAR, 3 Jul 83)	57
Rice Millers Ripping Off Millions in Subsidies (NEW STRAIT TIMES, various dates)	60
LPN, ACA Investigating, by Balan Moses Auditor General Not Surprised	
New Way To Allot Houses in Johor (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 2 Jul 83)	62
Petronas, Nippon Oil Sign Contract for Oil Supply (BUSINESS TIMES, 11 Jul 83)	63
Distinct Need To Find More Oil in Malaysia (Ho Sook Han; LUMPUR BUSINESS TIMES, 2 Jul 83)	64
Briefs	
Dakwah Activities	65
Bahasa Malaysia Courses	65

SINGAPORE

Government Withdraws Work Permit Approvals, Bans New Recruits (THE STAR, 30 Jun 83)	66
--	----

VIETNAM

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Briefs	
Attacks in Central SRV	67
Casualties in Pleiku	67

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

Writers Associations' Cooperation Plan Implemented (VAN NGHE, 18 Jun 83)	68
GDR-SRV 1983 Aid Agreement Signed in Berlin (VNA, 9 Jul 83)	69
Defense Minister Greets Albania on Army Day (VNA, 8 Jul 83)	70
Briefs	
Indochinese Envoys Meet Newsmen	71
Government Delegation Visits Nicaragua	71
Condolences Sent to Venezuelan CP	71
Truong Chinh Greets Columbia's National Day	72
Albanian Envoy Hosts Reception	72

AGRICULTURE

Hai Hung Harvests Bumper Fifth-Month, Spring Crop (NHAN DAN, 24 Jun 83)	73
Long An Ties Agricultural Success to Economic Development (Le Huyen Thong; NHAN DAN, 24 Jun 83)	75

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

Briefs	
Small Hydroelectric Power Stations	79

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

Briefs	
Symposium on Mekong Delta Environment	80

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

Current Population Statistics Viewed (Trinh Quoc Khoi; NGHIEN CUU GIAO DUC, May 83)	81
--	-----------

Hoa Hao People Living Standards Improve (Thai Duy; DAI DOAN KET, 22 Jun 83)	84
--	-----------

BIOGRAPHIC

Information on Vietnamese Personalities	89
--	-----------

BRUNEI'S FUTURE IN ASEAN VIEWED

East Burnham ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Jul 83 p 13-14

[Article by Joe Fernandez]

[Text]

At the end of the year the tiny oil producing sultanate of Brunei attains its full independence from Britain.

Joe Fernandez in Bandar Seri Begawan, the Brunei capital, sums up the prospects for the new state in the future

○ Britain's withdrawal from Brunei poses a range of questions about the future of the 2,225-square-mile sultanate. Will it fall victim to predatory neighbours? Can it somehow continue as before, a benevolent anachronism out of Southeast Asia's feudal past? Finding solutions to such problems is a full-time preoccupation with Bandar these days.

The history of "modern" Brunei begins with its conversion to Islam by traders from Malacca. The fall of Malacca to the Portuguese in 1511 saw a corresponding rise in the fortunes of Brunei. At first this role was rather limited, mainly providing refuge to Muslim merchants from Malacca. Soon, however, the influence of the sultanate and Islam extended far and wide over the region.

Brunei's expansion was checked by the advent of western imperialism. One by one, the Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch and finally the British whittled away at the Brunei empire. By the 19th century the empire had shrunk to a small area around Bandar Seri Begawan. Eventually, only the declaration of a British protectorate in 1888 prevented Brunei's complete disappearance.

The discovery of oil in the 1920s considerably revived the sagging fortunes of the Brunei court. It also raised the political stakes over the state. An influx of Asian and European personnel, both administrative and technical, ensued. Their skills were much in demand by the Shell Oil Company, eager to exploit the newly-discovered oil fields. The sudden shift in fortunes meant that at least part of the Bruneians became acquainted with new skills and new ways.

For the vast majority of Bruneians however, life remained very much as before. The spread of modernity remained thin, restricted by a conservative Brunei royalty fearful of its effect on the traditional loyalty of their peasant subjects. Sheltered thus Brunei became a mini version of British Malaya. The sultanate evolved into two parallel societies: a ruling Brunei Malay elite, cushioned below by a dynamic Chinese business community; and the great mass of peasantry, protected from change by their traditional rulers.

Indigenous nationalism was a slow process. The first political party, Partai Rakyat Brunei (Brunei Peoples Party) was established in 1956. Professing socialism of an uncertain brand, the PRB forged close ties with other left-wing politicians outside the state. Led by A N Azahari, a Bruneian claiming Arab descent, the PRB presented its political strategy: the federation of North Borneo under the constitutional monarchy of the Brunei sultan. The party also called for nationwide elections to a legislative assembly.

The unveiling of the 1959 constitution pushed contending power-groups into two camps: the fervently nationalist anti-colonialist PRB in one; and the Brunei royalty and British, led by the sultan, in the other. A stage was further set by the sultan's July 1962

announcement of Brunei's intended merger with the proposed Federation of Malaysia. The PRB condemned the merger proposals.

The next month, August 1962, the PRB swept to a landslide victory in Brunei's first-ever general elections, winning all 16 of the legislature's seats at stake. The political implications of the PRB victory were not lost on the sultan. He immediately toned down his pro-Malaysia stance.

The sultan's apparent second thoughts over Malaysia did not ease the PRB's distrust of him. In December 1962, 3,000 armed PRB members took over police stations and oil installations in Brunei and in areas of Sabah and Sarawak. Rebel plans envisaged the "liberation" of the whole of Northern Borneo. The sultan himself evaded captivity with just moments to spare. Finally, British troops from Singapore and Malayan troops thwarted the rebels. PRB leader Azahari had fled to Manila even before the rebellion.

The PRB's "act of treason" has neither been forgotten nor forgiven. While some of its leaders managed to flee, others reportedly still languish in prisons.

Eventually, in September 1963, Brunei decided, for a variety of reasons, to stay out of Malaysia - and relations worsened after Brunei's rejection. The strain in relations has continued ever since. More fuel was poured on the fire in 1970, when the sultan laid claim, on historical and religious grounds, to the Sarawak towns of Lawas, Limbang and Trusan. This was followed by the escape of ten detained PRB leaders to Malaysia. Later they were granted political asylum and allowed to open a PRB office in Kuala Lumpur.

PRB leaders continued to argue the case for independence wherever possible: with Arab nations; at the Islamic Conference; and at the United Nations. The first positive result came in 1973 when the 24-nation UN Decolonisation Committee cast serious doubts on Brunei's professed "self-governing" status. The committee proposed an on-the-spot investigation, but Bandar banned entry of a UN team. Malaysia has continuously reminded the UN and others of the "Brunei issue."

Brunei now is caught in a development boom that could make it a model state. Much of the money thus generated has filtered down to the "rice roots" level, and the people have benefited. There is little unemployment and living standards have risen. Education is free and so is medical attention.

The pace of Brunei's development today is such that some have dubbed the oil producing sultanate the "Shellfare state." What problems arise in the future, as a result of the new prosperity, remain to be seen. Today, almost one-third of the population is in school. Asks

an anxious Bruncian government official: "What is the future for our educated youth? Will they obtain jobs which their education and ambitions expect?"

There are other emerging forces. As in other parts of the Muslim world, Islam in Brunei is on the revival. Part of the reason is traced to the growing number of Middle East-educated youths. In recent years their demands have led, for example, to a government ban on the public sale of liquor. A senior Shell official observes: "Can an intensely nationalist and Islamic movement find compromise with the demands of a multi-racial state?" (According to the 1970 census, Brunei's population of 130,260 was 54 per cent Brunei Malay (Muslim), 16.5 per cent other "natives," 26 per cent Chinese and 3.5 per cent others).

With independence looming, PRB leaders in Kuala Lumpur are moderating their tone. No longer, for example, does the party insist on a socialist federation of Northern Borneo, a realisation no doubt that the incorporation of Sabah and Sarawak in Malaysia is a fait accompli.

Remarks a senior PRB official in Kuala Lumpur: "The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) has emerged as a new political force in Southeast Asia. It has received momentum and world support. These changes have entirely changed the political pattern of Southeast Asia. Under the influence of such radical changes in the politics of this region, the PRB readjusts its stand to align itself with the movement for regional cooperation and universal peace."

The present stand of the PRB "in view of the changed circumstances" calls for the establishment of a constitutional monarchy in Brunei, an elected parliament, a state ideology based on Islam, nationalism and democracy, and the forging of closer ties with the "Malay world." "Future economic ventures," says the PRB, "will be based on an equal and just partnership with local control."

The party is mindful too of Kuala Lumpur's hospitality to its leaders in exile, despite its 1962 rejection of the Malaysia proposal. Observes a senior party official: "The question of Brunei's participation in Malaysia will be seriously considered if and when the PRB comes to power in Bandar. Of course the people too will have to be consulted, perhaps through a referendum."

In the quiet corridors of Wisma Putra (Malaysia's foreign ministry) cautious optimism is being expressed by senior officials that Brunei will join the Asean fold once the British withdraw. Observes one senior official: "After 1983 the sultanate's secluded and protected status will end. Brunei will then face

the full force of the violent political storms in the region. Also, at current rates of extraction, 220,000 barrels a day, the sultanate will run dry of oil in another 15 years. What happens then? It is difficult to imagine the state just living off interest alone."

In any case, the unspoken thought in Kuala Lumpur is that Brunei's still immense and increasingly valuable reserves of oil and gas are too tempting a prize to be in the possessive grasp of an ultra-conservative royalty. The general consensus is that change must come, "either from within or without." All the political and diplomatic indicators point to Brunei's eventual membership of Asean.

CSO: 4200/728

GROWING ECONOMIC CRISIS CONFRONTS JAKARTA GOVERNMENT

Penang BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Jul 83 p 21

[Article by Dilip Mukerjee]

[Text]

INDONESIA is a member of Opec with a 3 per cent share in the oil output of its 13-member countries. This explains why its economy has managed to grow at about 5 per cent a year in the past decade almost without trying. Between 1971 and 1980, oil and gas revenues increased 31-fold, allowing the country's military rulers a great deal of elbow room to keep the population, now around 180 million, content if not happy.

In this sense, oil has been a blessing. However, the fact remains that Indonesia is Opec's most populous member and consequently also the poorest in per capita terms. The per capita income of US\$430 for the country is almost a third of Opec's poorest member, Ecuador.

Clearly, Indonesia is too big to be able to get by on the basis of just one source of income, however large. It has no need to do that either because it has a wealth of mineral and agricultural resources unlike some Opec members dependent solely on oil and gas. Unfortunately, however, diversification of the economy did not get the priority it deserved because of the oil bonanza.

This is evident from the fact that the share of manufacturing in the national cake is still as low as 9 per cent, almost unchanged from what it was 30 years ago. This is

in part because of the explosive growth in the oil sector with which the rest of the economy failed to keep up.

Stagnation

It is also evident from the fact that the share of oil and gas — or hydrocarbons — is as much as 70 per cent in total exports and two-thirds in government revenues. This can no longer be sustained because of two factors.

The latest projections of commodity prices from the World Bank and other forecasters point to stagnation in oil prices in real terms or even perhaps a fall during the period up to 1985, and slow growth at 3 per cent a year or less for the next 10 years. Besides, Indonesian exports of oil have peaked already, with any additions to output being offset by rise in domestic consumption. Gas export will keep growing, however, but the gains from this will be relatively small.

What this means is that Indonesia can no longer coast along. Sustaining growth will require not only effort but also wisdom in terms of the choices the country's rulers make in terms of policies for consumption, investment and foreign trade.

Considering consumption first, there is no doubt that Indonesians — or at least a large proportion of them — are much

better off now. The most telling indicator is that life expectancy is now 65, compared with only 39 in 1965. There has been much improvement in literacy, school enrolment and the availability of medical services. But not to be overlooked is the fact that two-fifths of the households are below the poverty line. The Indonesian ratio is higher than in the Philippines even though the latter defines the line less modestly.

Courage

The increase in Indonesian consumption came from two major sources, one being a very impressive growth rate in agriculture on which three-fifths of the people depend for livelihood. The other is the hand-outs from the national Treasury in the form of subsidies on food, fuel, transport and the like. The dimensions these hand-outs have assumed are at once evident from the US\$2.2 billion (approximately US\$16 per head) Bill in 1982 for subsidised oil prices.

The regime Jakarta went on providing these subsidies from swelling revenues until the moment of truth arrived a year ago. The slowing of oil revenues made drastic cuts necessary, with the result that domestic oil prices went up by 60 per cent. The smaller subsidiary on food was reduced at the same time, earning the government high marks for its

courage in making these adjustments just ahead of the national elections held last April.

As things now stand, more cuts will be necessary in 1983 since export earnings from oil will, despite a small rise over the low level of the previous year, still be some 15 per cent below the 1981 peak — according to projections made by Chase Econometrics, one of the world's top forecasting agencies.

In relation to investments, there will be the same compelling need for prudence. In recent years, Indonesia has tended to make huge outlays for capital-intensive projects like the US\$3 billion Krakatau steel plant without too much thought about returns. This cannot go on, and brakes will have to be applied at least until the country builds up the capability to utilize such plants in an optimum manner.

Equally large investments have been made, mostly by bringing in foreign investors on a production-sharing basis, on mineral projects to tap large and rich deposits of copper, tin and nickel. These have not contributed as much to the Indonesian economy as expected because of low international prices in recent years. Since little increase is expected in real terms in the next few years, the benefits will be slow and meagre.

These realities make it all the more necessary to step up development of the manufacturing sector relying on two intrinsic advantages: indigenous raw materials and cheap and plentiful labour. This is necessary to generate export earnings to meet domestic demand and create employment outside farms — especially in acutely overcrowded Java — for a labour force increasing by about 1.7 million a year.

Crisis

Indonesia's puny and poorly organised manufacturing sector has done quite well in recent years. This is evident from its 12.8 per cent growth in the past decade when exports increased at a compound 24 per cent a year. Although this was from a very small base in both cases, the World Bank's chief economist for the region, Parvez Hasan, argues that a growth of 20 per cent in exports should still be possible provided correct and helpful policies are adopted.

This brings into focus the regime's foreign trade policy. Oil-fuelled wealth has meant a high rate of inflation — over 20 per cent in the 1970s compared with 7.5 per cent in Malaysia. This explains why Indonesian exports — not only of manufactures but also of primary commodities — have been held back by high domestic costs. The one-time cure of devaluation in 1978 did not really work: the benefit was wiped out by a spurt in domestic prices.

Faced with the crisis that has now overtaken the country, the regime was presumably considering a second devaluation, giving rise to widespread speculation throughout 1982. Evidently, this option has now been ruled out but the alternative of barter trade, now being pushed, is no better — as the Indonesian Vice President Adam Malik recently admitted in an unusually candid manner.

There are in fact no quick fixes; the sooner the regime recognises it the better. The only way the country can move ahead is by making undramatic but important changes to enable industry and trade to operate more effectively and efficiently.

INDONESIA AIMS FOR STRONG INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Jul 83 p 3

[Text]

INDONESIA wants to create a strong industrial sector capable of growing on its own so that the country's dependence on foreign products can be minimised, Industry Minister Mr Hartarto said here.

This was a long term objective of the government as reduction of the country's dependence on imported products was one of the main tasks of the Industry Ministry, he said.

Industrial development under the fourth five-year plan (which begins in April 1984) would promote the use of various local resources — from energy to human resources, he said.

The industrial sector, he said, should not only meet domestic needs but should also capture the international markets to boost the country's foreign exchange earnings.

He said since 1980, the public and private sectors' capital investments in industrial projects had totalled 13.5 trillion rupi-

ahs (about M\$30 billion).

The minister also anticipated increased production in base chemical, base metal, small and other industries.

The breakdown of capital investments are: About US\$3.29 billion (about M\$7.6 billion) in base chemical industries, about US\$2.26 billion (about M\$5.2 billion) in base metal industries, about US\$678.6 million (about M\$1.661 billion) in small industries and about US\$3.89 billion (about M\$9 billion) in other industries.

The minister said a directory containing data on the national industry capacity would be updated yearly in view of the expected increase in production.

■ The Indonesian government will limit its involvement in business activities while the role of local private companies will be stepped up in the future, chairman of the Capital Investment Coordinating Board Suhartoyo said here.

This means that the

JAKARTA, July 10

government would only engage in certain business investments and the development of essential infrastructures, he told newsmen after receiving head of the Institute of Finance and Economic Business Laurence Manulang.

The institute will organise a symposium on *Investment Climate After the Devaluation of the Rupiah* here from Aug. 8 to 10.

Mr Suhartoyo said the investment board would soon promote agro-based industries as the manufacturing sector had now reached "saturation point."

The agro-based industries would cover three areas — the completion of government projects, the construction of 29 palm oil factories in North Sumatra where private companies would be given opportunity to participate, and the opening of new estate zones which would span over an area of 100,000 hectares, he added. — Bernama-Antara

CSO: 4200/746

NEED SEEN FOR LEGISLATION ON INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 8 Jun 83 p 1

[Article: "State Intelligence Law Needs To Be Prepared"]

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Draft legislation on the state intelligence service needs to be prepared at once by the government. At present the existence of BAKIN [State Intelligence Coordination Body] is only based on a presidential decision memorandum which states that its primary task is to perform intelligence functions.

This is the view of Committee I of Parliament, which held a working meeting with Yoga Sugomo, the chief of BAKIN, on Tuesday [7 June] at the parliament building.

The question arises, who has the authority to prepare such a draft law? A member of Parliament who sits on Committee I indicated that it should be the State Secretariat. Although this may be the solution, BAKIN itself--if necessary--could be given the task of preparing draft legislation covering the state intelligence service.

At the working session referred to above only four reporters were in attendance until the meeting was over. However, while the session went on, a red light with the sign on it "off the record" was repeatedly turned on.

About eight questions led to turning on the red light, such as the statement by the chief of BAKIN regarding the draft law on the state intelligence service, the Vietnam question, the taxation system, the manufacture of oil from marijuana leaves, gambling, BAKIN personnel and the communist subversive threat, and foreign spies.

The request that no articles be printed on these subjects did not come only from the chief of BAKIN. Ipik Asmasubrata, a member of Parliament from the PDI [Indonesian Democracy Party] faction, specifically asked that the red light be turned on.

In a discussion held after the working meeting was over, it was stated that political life in the next 5 years will be steadier. Although this was agreed, the matter of political development still needed to mature further.

Both sides in the discussion agreed that existing elements of political education are rather effective in the maturation of the process of political development in Indonesia.

Regarding the development of national stability, it was believed that this will still encounter obstacles from both domestic as well as foreign sources. Obstacles arising from domestic sources are in the field of ideology, while obstacles from abroad involve the latent subversive threat.

The working meeting was presided over by Dr H. Ismail Hasan Matarum, the chairman of the Committee I of Parliament, who is a member of the Development Unity Faction.

5170

CSO: 4213/76

DEVELOPMENT OF STRONG DEFENSE INDUSTRY MADE 'FIRST PRIORITY'

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 2 Jun 83 p 8

[Article: "PT PINDAD: Will Become Largest Defense Industry in Southeast Asia"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--In a short time PT Pindad in Bandung will develop into a strong defense and security industry in Indonesia and in Southeast Asia.

Dr B. J. Habibie, minister of state for research and technology, made this statement as principal director of PT Pindad when he installed other directors of the firm in office in the BPPT [Body for Study and Application of Technology] building in Jakarta on Wednesday [1 June].

Habibie declared that the development of PT Pindad into a strong defense industry is in accordance with the first priority assigned to the state-owned company, namely to provide the equipment needs of the Ministry of Defense and Security, both in terms of ammunition as well as arms.

In this connection he expressed the hope that PT Pindad would be able to develop in at least the same way as the PT Nurtanio aircraft industry in Bandung and the PT PAL shipbuilding company in Surabaya.

Habibie, who is also principal director of the other two companies, stated that the experience of PT Nurtanio and PT PAL could be made available for the development of PT Pindad.

According to Habibie, PT Nurtanio, which was established 7 years ago, has made a proud contribution in both the technological as well as the economic fields. The performance of PT PAL, which was just established 3 years ago, has begun to be evident in the field of technology, although from the economic point of view it still needs more time to show what it can do.

The directors of PT Pindad who were installed in office were Dr Rahadi Ramelan, director of technology; Dr T. Syamsu, director of production; and Dr Lutfi Zakaria, director general of PT Pindad.

Dr Rahadi Ramelan, director of technology of PT Pindad, after being installed in office, replied to a question from ANTARA, stating that PT Pindad in fact was the largest military industrial firm in the Southeast Asian area, employing 5,300 people.

Habibie said that PT Pindad, as an industrial firm, under normal circumstances would have the task of performing business functions and would spend 20 percent of its time handling work for the Ministry of Defense and Security. However, under emergency conditions, according to Habibie, this division of effort would change, and it would then spend 80 percent of its time on Ministry of Defense and Security activities and 20 percent of its time on nonmilitary functions.

Dr Rahadi Ramelan, answering questions, stated that the change from concentrating on nonmilitary activities to doing military work could be accomplished in a short time, in the space of 1 week.

Habibie said that some facilities for the production of bullets and ammunition belonging to PT Pindad in Bandung will be transferred to Turen (Malang Regency) [East Java]. The purpose of this change is so that the company in Bandung can concentrate on industrial activity for the production of machinery and equipment, both for weapons as well as for various other products.

5170
CSO: 4213/76

EASTERN EUROPE MARKET POTENTIAL ANALYZED

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 1 Jun 83 p 3

[Article: "Export Market Potential in Eastern Europe Must Have Special Handling"]

[Excerpt] Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--Dr Harry Tanugraha, executive director of GAPKINDO [Association of Indonesian Rubber Producers], declared yesterday that if we want to regain the size and value of our rubber exports to the countries of Eastern Europe, we must handle trade with that area in a special way.

Harry said: "The market potential in Eastern Europe requires special handling so that the volume of our rubber exports, which totaled 102,897 tons in 1981, can be reached again this year."

Indonesian rubber exports to the countries of Eastern Europe dropped drastically in 1982 and only totaled 64,817 tons. The largest reduction was in rubber exports to the Soviet Union, which declined by 50 percent. In the other Eastern European countries the increases and declines varied from one to another. The countries which have bought Indonesian rubber of SIR [Standard Indonesian Rubber] 20 quality are East Germany, Romania, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Bulgaria. East Germany, which took almost 11,000 tons of rubber in 1980, imported only a little more than 4,000 tons in 1982. Meanwhile, Czechoslovakia, which had not imported Indonesian rubber since 1975, purchased 17,000 tons in 1982.

Speaking to the press at the Seminar on Trade Between Indonesia and East Germany, which is being held by the BPEN [Body for National Development of Exports] and the Embassy of the German Democratic Republic, Harry said that the Indonesian rubber market in East Germany is steady and good.

He said that with regard to the question of increasing rubber exports to the socialist countries of Eastern Europe this is an easy matter if the problem of sea transportation can be resolved through some changes, particularly in terms of breaking bulk cargo.

Up to the present Indonesian rubber exports to Eastern Europe have been transported on ships which regularly service the route between Europe and

Southeast Asia. Harry said: "If we can use Indonesian flag vessels with rubber quotations on a C&F [Cost and Freight] basis, the problem would disappear because their transportation charges are on the average 40 percent cheaper than international shipping charges."

The 1-day seminar, attended by businessmen interested in selling export commodities to the socialist countries, was officially opened by Sutadi, chairman of BPEN, with Werner Peters, ambassador of the German Democratic Republic, attending.

In the course of the program a number of existing obstacles to trade will be considered and solutions will be sought for them. A study will be made of what markets are open for Indonesia in that part of the world.

Export commodities like rubber, coffee, garments, and essential oils are export items desired by East Germany. In addition the role of the Leipzig Fair will be discussed in helping to promote Indonesian goods in the Eastern European countries. For the past 2 years Indonesia has not participated in the Leipzig Fair.

5170
CSO: 4213/76

JAKARTA SEES A REAGAN BOOST FOR DEVELOPMENT

Penong BUSINESS TIMES in English 8 Jul 83 p 2

[Text]

INDONESIA hopes that American cooperation in its economic development will be a major theme of President Reagan's visit to Jakarta in November, Foreign Minister Mr Moeltjar Kusumadinata was yesterday quoted as saying.

The official Antara News Agency said Mr Moeltjar told Indonesian reporters that the government's policy, including its foreign policy, was centred on a development programme.

"So Indonesia wants to see President Reagan's visit in the framework of economic and development cooperation," Antara quoted Mr Moeltjar as saying.

It said President Reagan would be returning a visit by President Suharto to the US last October.

President Reagan will also visit Japan and South Korea on his Asian tour in early November.

Antara quoted diplomatic sources in Bangkok as saying the Foreign Ministers of the five Asian countries may also be planning a meeting with President Reagan while he is in Indonesia, which is Asian's largest member.

But when asked about this by reporters, Mr Moeltjar replied "wait

and see," Antara said.

Diplomatic sources said the details of President Reagan's visit were still being worked out.

They said Mr Moeltjar would need time to consult his Asian partners before any arrangements could be made for such a meeting.

■ PRESIDENT Suharto said yesterday the Indonesian government can no longer offer foreign investors long-term rights to cultivate state land.

Information Minister Mr Achmad Hameke said the President discussed the problem at a Cabinet meeting after the head of the Investment Coordinating Body, Mr Suharto, told the meeting that one of the problems in luring foreign investors to invest capital in the agriculture sector was that the limit of the permit was too short.

Mr Hameke said the President emphasised the government must abide by the agrarian law stipulating that the right to cultivate will not exceed 25 years but it can be extended for 25 yrs.

The President added, however, that the government would see to it that the investors will be informed on the possible extension while the land had been cultivated for 25

years, "to erase the doubt of the investors."

President Suharto had offered legal provisions to foreign investors to invest in joint ventures with Indonesian companies for growing palm trees, hybrid coconut, chocolate, rubber and sugar cane in sparsely populated islands of Kalimantan and Irian Jaya.

■ THE meeting of 19 donor countries and four donor international bodies last month in The Hague which provided US\$2.3 billion aid to Indonesia was no "rescue operation" as other meetings have been for Mexico or Argentina, Indonesian Minister Coordinator for Economy, Finance and Industry Mr Ali Wardhana said.

Mr Wardhana said that the meeting of the International Group on Indonesia (IGII) last June 15 had been no rescue operation which took "emergency measures" but a meeting to "help progress Indonesian development."

In a first comment here on the IGII meeting, the minister said the result showed an increase of confidence from the outside world towards Indonesia.

This was reflected in the amount of aid given which "was higher than first expected," he said.

He recalled that praise was given to Indonesia by donor countries about its recent economic policies, including the 27.5 per cent devaluation of the rupiah and the reshaping of major development projects and stressed that these measures had been taken to secure a safe way of development.

The International Monetary Fund, Japan and the United States are the three major donors. Mr Wardhana added that the deficit for fiscal year 1983-84 would be around US\$5 to US\$6.5 billion.

■ INDONESIA's vehicle production will fall 20 per cent to 120,000 units this year from 150,000 in 1982, Mr Laupase, head of the Indonesian Automobile Producers Association was quoted as saying in an interview with the *Suara Karya* newspaper.

Mr Laupase said the association had revised its estimate of 1983 production down from 150,000 units in the wake of fuel price rises, the devaluation of the rupiah in March and the continuing effects of recession.

Indonesia's domestic vehicle market is dominated by four Japanese makers, all of which have interests in joint venture companies which assemble their cars. — *Agencia*

JAKARTA GETS ADB GRANT FOR LIVESTOCK PROJECT

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Jul 83 p 2

[Text]

MANILA, July 2

THE Asian Development Bank has approved a technical assistance grant to Indonesia for the second Kalimantan livestock development project.

The grant will examine the livestock potential in Kalimantan and prepare a feasibility study for livestock development in the region, which is one of the least populated in Indonesia.

The aim is to increase the production and productivity of livestock such as cattle, buffaloes, goats, sheep and pigs for domestic consumption.

It will help to expand the supply of breeding and draft animals to smallholder farmers, provide livestock support services and training and promote the integration of livestock and farming.

Kalimantan has one of the lowest livestock densities in Indonesia and agriculture accounts for about 50 per cent of the region's employment.

The ADB has also approved a technical assistance grant to help in planning and formulating of programmes for

the development of rural and renewable non-oil energy supply to meet the growing commercial energy needs of rural areas in Kalimantan.

An ADB statement said because of expanding economic opportunities and availability of land, Kalimantan is attracting large-scale immigration of people from the overcrowded areas of Indonesia.

As such, development of commercial energy supplies in Kalimantan to sustain expansion of socio-economic activities has become an urgent priority.

TOKYO will extend a grant of 2,000 million yen (US\$10.5 million) for the Philippines Human Resources Development Centre project (PHRDC), the Japanese Embassy here announced.

The grant will be used to build a human resources management centre, a seafarming research centre, and a construction manpower development centre in different parts of the country. — Bernama, AFP.

CSO: 4200/746

INDONESIA'S RUBBER TRADE CONTROLLED BY SINGAPORE

Penang BUSINESS TIMES in English 5 Jul 83 p 20

[Text]

COUNTRIES in search of Indonesian rubber have found it easier to get their supplies from Singapore rather than directly from Indonesia, the chairman of the Indonesian Rubber Producers Federation (Gapindo) has said.

In a statement quoted today by the Jakarta dai-

ly Kompas, Harry Tanugraha gave the example of South Korean buyers who had difficulty finding Standard Indonesian Rubber (SIR) in Indonesia, but could get it easily from Singapore.

The situation has led people to wonder whether Indonesian rubber is not

JAKARTA, July 4

now controlled by Singaporeans. Mr Tanugraha said.

Commenting on reports that various countries, including China, are worried about Singapore's ability to ensure continuous supplies of Singapore Standard Rubber (SSR) in the wake of dwindling production, Mr Tanugraha said Indonesia should be able to profit from the situation.

He noted that because of Indonesian official curbs on exports of low-quality rubber, which Singapore has relied on for processing into SSR, at least one big Singapore rubber plant has switched to stocking and trading in Standard Indonesian Rubber (SIR).

Mr Tanugraha said that many countries are now looking to Indonesia as a sure source of supply, but that the country still had to overcome certain problems in its rubber trade, particularly the high transportation costs from outports to Jakarta. — Bernama KES

CSO: 4200/746

NEW NON-PETROLEUM EXPORT STRATEGY CONSIDERED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 8 Jun 83 pp 1, 9

[Article: "New Strategy on Non-Petroleum Exports Considered So That Goals for the 1983-84 State Budget Can be Achieved"]

[Text] The Ministry of Trade is considering a new strategy for non-petroleum exports, in order to ensure that the 1983-84 state budget goals may be achieved. Among other things the new strategy will change how export promotion is handled. Previously, the budget was based on task units. The change being considered would involve bringing together commodities and business units.

Minister of Trade Rachmat Saleh made this statement in testimony before Committee VII of Parliament on Tuesday [7 Jun]. The working session was presided over by Dr A. A. Malik.

According to the minister, the new standard involving bringing together commodities and business units in practice will be divided into a short range and middle range program. The short-range program will be used to handle commodities whose role in terms of export values is rather large, while the middle range program will cover commodities which have potential but which at present have a rather small role in bringing in export income.

He said: "Each commodity will be handled by a team." For example, plywood would be handled by a team composed of people involved in the plywood business. In this way it is hoped that effective leadership will emerge, both involving the view of the potential role of the commodity, the productive capacity, and the marketing of it.

The minister said: "In this way it is hoped that there will be unity of action regarding a given commodity. The team will operate from the phase of production through marketing, transportation, and so forth."

The new system will be an improvement on the old system, which involved the formation of Permanent Working Committees for Export Development, chaired by the minister of trade.

Members of the old-style committees consisted of representatives from the National Planning Board, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Trade, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Mining and Energy, the Ministry of Home Affairs, and so forth.

In the old-style committees task units were formed, for example a task unit on export financing and insurance, a task unit on marketing which monitored questions in connection with the sale of the commodity abroad, and so forth. The minister said: "After it had been operating for some time, it turned out that the task unit needed to be improved, because it was very general in character." For example, a task unit could be formed on financing, which could handle various financing questions for several commodities, like rubber, coffee, etc.

Rachmat Saleh added that the concept for developing the export of non-petroleum commodities, based on a commodity and a business unit, had had a good reception from other cabinet members concerned with exports. However, for the present this will not involve making a definite decision or establishing a formal institution. He was optimistic that the team would be able to achieve concrete results in the form of reaching budgetary goals in earning non-petroleum export income. For fiscal year 1983-84 the target for non-petroleum exports aims at bringing in \$4.2 billion.

Rachmat Saleh said: "As we look at past experience, the views expressed, and the comments made by friends after many team meetings have been held, I am optimistic that this way of handling things will work out well. This system can promote exports and help us to reach our budgetary goals. Indeed, if possible, to exceed them."

Members of Committee VII asked several questions of the minister of trade who, during his testimony, was accompanied by a full staff. Some of the questions asked involved the export package of January, 1982, the administration of domestic trade, the formation of trading houses, and several other questions.

Regarding the handling of the January 1982 export package, which was connected with the world recession, Minister Rachmat Saleh concluded that this policy has brought encouraging results. It has been proved that it slowed down the decline of export values which had previously been recorded as a consequence of the seriousness of the world recession.

He said that during 1982 actual exports of non-petroleum commodities tended to decline as a consequence of the seriousness of the world recession, followed by a decline on commodity prices on the international market. However, since the last half of 1982 this decline in commodity prices has slowed down. During the first months of 1982 the decline in commodity prices was about 23.68 percent, compared with the same period in 1981, but by the middle of 1982, on a cumulative basis, month by month, the decline in prices had been held down to 16.43 percent. Indeed, by the end of 1982 the decline in prices was only 12.71 percent.

A more satisfying development appeared at the beginning of 1983. The value of exports in January 1983, registered an increase of 10.29 percent, compared with the same month of 1982. Taken as a whole, export volume continued to increase in a meaningful way, although unit prices were low. However, there was evidence of a tendency toward a steady increase in the level of exports.

5170

CSO: 4213/76

DUTIES ON FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS ANNOUNCED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 9 Jun 83 p 1

[Article: "To Increase Receipts of Foreign Exchange, Foreign Fishing Vessels Will Be Required To Pay Two Kinds of Taxes"]

[Excerpt] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Effective immediately, fishing by foreign ships in Indonesian waters will be affected by the collection of two kinds of taxes. The new taxes involve a tax on the ship and on the catch. This is needed to increase state holdings of foreign exchange.

This was stated by Abdu Rachman, director general of fisheries, to members of Committee VI of Parliament at a working meeting the minister of agriculture attended with the committee on Wednesday [8 June]. The committee session was presided over by Eddiwan, the committee chairman.

This is the first time taxes will be collected from foreign ships. Previously, no taxes were ever collected by the government. The collection of taxes will take place after the signature of the presidential decision memorandum on the use of the Exclusive Economic Zone in Indonesian waters.

According to the director general, from 1980 until the signature of a consensus document on the international law of the sea in 1982, the government had permitted ships from friendly countries to operate in the Exclusive Economic Zone. He said: "About 82 ships from Japan and 23 ships from Malaysia were operating in Indonesian waters without paying even 1 cent of taxes."

There will be two taxes collected, that is the tax on the ship of \$6 per gross ton per year, and the payment of a royalty of about 8 percent of the value of the fish caught, with the value to be determined on the basis of the price in effect during a given year.

The director general said: "By issuing fishing permits for about 200 ships, this is a reasonable basis for adding to state reserves of foreign exchange."

Since foreign ships are fishing in our Exclusive Economic Zone, Director General Abdu Rachman is aware of the importance of surveillance to prevent the theft of fish. For that purpose there is a need to construct strategic harbors throughout the Indonesian archipelago, including at Merauke [Irian

Jaya], Sibolga [North Sumatra], and Pelabuhan Ratu [West Java]. It is hoped that from these harbors surveillance of the Exclusive Economic Zone in neighboring waters can be carried on.

In addition, it will be necessary to station observers on board the foreign ships, who will have to be paid by the owners of the ship involved. It will be very difficult to find such observers. The director general said: "In that connection we might offer the jobs to university students who are writing their theses or obtaining actual working experience."

5170

CSO: 4213/76

ASEAN FERTILIZER PLANT LIKELY TO OPERATE IN DECEMBER

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Jul 83 p 22

[Text]

JAKARTA, July 10

THE Asean fertiliser plant in Lhokseumawe, Aceh, is expected to start production in December, three months ahead of schedule, president director of the Asean Aceh Fertiliser (AAF) company, Mr Rachman Subandi said here.

The plant which was near completion cost some US\$300 million (about \$290 million) to build, he told Antara.

Indonesia has a 60 per cent share in the project while the rest will be held by Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Singapore.

The president director said the plant was expected to contribute to non-oil and non-gas exports from Indonesia as its production would be exported and partly used domestically.

The AAF plant will be the first Asean joint industrial project to be launched. Another one is being built in Bintulu, Sarawak. A soda ash plant is projected for Thailand, a petrochemical plant for the Philippines while Singapore is still to decide on an Asean industrial project.

The five Asean projects will be developed with a Japanese aggregate loan of US\$1 billion (about \$2.3 billion)

CSO: 4200/746

INDONESIA WILL BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN OIL BY 1984

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Jul 83 p 3

[Text]

JAKARTA, July 10

INDONESIA should be able to end oil imports by early next year at the latest, Mines and Energy Minister Subroto said yesterday.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with President Suharto, the minister said that planned construction of three new oil refineries would make Indonesia's refining capacity sufficient to meet domestic demand by early 1984, or possibly even by the end of this year.

Mr Subroto announced that one of the three, the Cilacap refinery in central Java, with a capacity of 200,000 barrels per day, would be inaugurated on Aug. 4 by President Suharto.

The two other refineries now under construction, one in Dumai, Sumatra, with a capacity of 80,000 barrels a day, and another in Balikpapan, Kalimantan, with a capacity of 200,000 barrels per day, will respectively come on line in early 1984 and November of this

year, he said.

The shortfall between Indonesia's domestic consumption and the country's refining capacity currently totals 600,000 barrels per day.

To bridge this gap in the past, Pertamina, has maintained processing arrangements for domestic crude with refineries in several countries, mainly Singapore, and also imported a small volume of refined products.

In 1982, Indonesia obtained about 21 million barrels of refined products valued at about US\$1.66 billion under such arrangements.

The completion of the three new refineries is expected to allow Indonesia to meet domestic demand for petroleum products at least through 1987.

In another oil-related development, Minister Subroto said that formal talks would be held this month with P.T. Caltex Pacific, the largest foreign oil producer in Indo-

nesia.

Caltex wants its future production sharing contracts with Pertamina to be split 85-15 in favour of Indonesia, but Indonesia wants up to a 95-5 per cent split in its favour, which it said was a valid sharing agreement for companies producing more than 200,000 barrels per day.

Indonesia signed on Friday oil production sharing contracts with two French oil companies covering more than 20,000 square km of concessions in West Kalimantan.

The signing with Total and Elf Aquitaine, brought to 62 the total of production sharing contracts between Pertamina and foreign contractors.

Elf Aquitaine has received concession areas on land covering 8,920 square km in East Melawi, West Kalimantan, while Total Indonesia received a concession area of 12,235 square km in West Melawi. — AFP

CSO: 4200/746

INDONESIA

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

[Unless otherwise noted, the following information on Indonesian personalities has been extracted from Indonesian language sources published in Jakarta.]

LIEUTENANT GENERAL MOERGITO--Lieutenant General Moergito on Tuesday [7 June] assumed office as commanding general of the Indonesian Armed Forces Academy [AKABRI], replacing Lt Gen J. Henuhili at a ceremony held at AKABRI headquarters in Jakarta, presided over by Gen L. B. Moerdani, commander of the armed forces. Lieutenant General Moergito had previously been commander of Military Region VIII/Brawijaya. Lt Gen J. Henuhili will be assigned as a senior officer in headquarters of the Indonesian Armed Forces. The new commanding general of AKABRI was born on 18 January 1928. His military education included attendance at the Army Staff and Command School in 1971. He began his military career as a section commander in a battalion depot with the rank of second lieutenant in 1948. Among the positions he has held during his career are those of commander of Infantry Brigade 2 in 1971, commander of Military District 083, chief of staff of Military Region IX/Lambung Mangkurat in 1976, chief of staff of Military Region VIII/Brawijaya, and later on as commander of Military Region VIII/Brawijaya, beginning in 1981. Lieutenant General Moergito was chief of the Military Region VIII information service in 1969. Lieutenant General Moergito holds 12 decorations, including the Guerrilla Star, the War of Independence Medal I and II, the Good Conduct Medal, the 8-Year Service Medal, Operational Service Medal IV [service in South and Southeast Sulawesi], and the Kartika Eka Paksi Star, Class III. He is the father of five children. He speaks Dutch and English fluently. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 8 Jun 83 p 8] 5170

MAJ GEN UNTUNG SRIDADI--Maj Gen Untung Sridadi on Thursday [2 June] was installed in office as governor of the Army Section of the Indonesian Armed Force Academy [AKABRI], replacing Maj Gen Sudiman Saleh, who had served in the post for 2 years. Maj Gen Untung Sridadi, who is the 10th governor of the Army Section of AKABRI since the establishment of the National Military Academy in 1957, began his military education in the third class at the Military Academy in Yogyakarta. He later attended the Royal Military Academy in Breda [the Netherlands] after the Military Academy in Yogyakarta was closed. He later attended the Army Staff and Command School in Yugoslavia, was in the 10th class to graduate from the National Defense Institute, and attended the Defense Management Course in the United States. Positions he has held included that of commander of the Air Defense Command in KOSTRAD [Army Strategi Reserve Command], chief of staff of KOSTRAD, commander of

Military Region XII/Tanjungpura - West Kalimantan, and Army inspector general. For the time being Maj Gen Sudiman Saleh will be assigned as assistant for personnel affairs to the Army chief of staff. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 6 Jun 83 p 9] 5170

AIR VICE MARSHAL SOEYITNO--The post of deputy commander of Defense Area II on Saturday, 4 May, was transferred from the former incumbent, Rear Admiral Atmodjo Brotodarmodjo, to his replacement, Air Vice Marshal Soeyitno, who had previously been governor of the Air Force Section of the Indonesian Armed Forces Academy [AKABRI] in Yogyakarta. The transfer of command ceremony was held at headquarters of Defense Area II on Halan Reksobayan in Yogyakarta, in the presence of Lieutenant General Yogie, commander of Defense Area II. [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 7 Jun 83 p 8] 5170

SENIOR OFFICIALS IN MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS--Minister of Communications Roesmin Nurjadin presided over the transfer of three important offices in the Ministry of Communications on Friday [10 June] in the ministry auditorium in Jakarta. The three positions include: inspector general of the ministry, transferred from the former incumbent, Dr Sutomo Adisasmito, to his replacement, Brig Gen (Retired) Dr Murwani; chief of the Education and Training Section, transferred from the former incumbent, Dr R. Sukardjono, to his replacement, Major General (Retired) Sarwono; and chief of the Research and Development Section, from the former incumbent, Dr H. Nasution, to his replacement, Dr Suwanto. [Excerpt] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 11 Jun 83 p 11] 5170

SENIOR OFFICIALS IN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY--Doctor Hartarto, minister of industry, on Saturday [11 June] installed three senior officials of the ministry in their new positions, at a ceremony held at the offices of the Ministry of Industry on Jalan Kebon Sirih in Jakarta. The three senior officials are: Lt Gen (Retired) Harun Suwardi, the new inspector general, replacing J. Sulamet; Dr Sotion Ardjanggi, the new director general of miscellaneous industry, replacing Dr K. Hadinoto; and Major General Dr Sidharta, the new director general of basic chemical industry, replacing Toek Setyohadi, who had been acting director general. Before he retired from the Army on 1 April 1983 Lt Gen Harun Suwardi had been assistant for logistical affairs to the Army chief of staff. Dr Sotion Ardjanggi had previously been principal director of PT Pusri. Doctor Sidharta had been principal director of PT Petrokimia Gresik. [Excerpt] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 11 Jun 83 pp 1, 12] 5170

KAHARUDDIN NASUTION--Minister of Home Affairs Soepardjo Rustam presided over the installation in office of Kaharuddin Nasution as governor of North Sumatra for the period 1983-88, in a ceremony held at a special plenary session of the North Sumatra Provincial Assembly on Monday [13 June]. Kaharuddin Nasution replaces E.W.P. Tambunan, who has completed his tour of duty and will be assigned to Jakarta. Kaharuddin Nasution and his wife, Ray Siti Roestamy Septyaningsih, have four children. He was born in Medan on 23 June 1925. Most of his education has been obtained during military service. He attended the Army Staff and Command School in Bandung in 1967, the National Defense

Institute in Jakarta in 1971, and the Ministry of Defense and Security Management Course in 1972. During his military career he began to attract attention as commander of the Military District of Jakarta in 1954-55. He was commander of the RPKAD [Army Commandos], 1956-59. He was commander of Operation 17 August in mainland Riau Province, 1959-60, and was later commander of Wirabima Military District in mainland Riau Province, 1960. He was governor of Riau Province, 1960-67, and was chairman of the Riau Provincial Assembly and a member of the MPRS [Temporary People's Consultative Assembly] for Riau Province at the same time. From 1967-70 he was commander of Military Region XIII/Merdeka. He was successively Army inspector general (1971-73), inspector general of the Ministry of Information (1973-78), and Indonesian ambassador to the Republic of Korea (1978-82). His last previous post before becoming governor of North Sumatra was that of senior officer assigned to the Army chief of staff. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 14 Jun 83 pp 1, 12] 5170

CSO: 4213/78

BRIEFS

NEW PATROL BOAT--Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--Vice Adm M. Romly, Navy chief of staff, officially accepted the KRI [Republic of Indonesia Ship] "Silea" into the Indonesian fleet at a ceremony held on Saturday, 28 May 1983, at Madura Quay in Surabaya. The official acceptance of the ship into the fleet was marked by raising its operational pennant and by the Navy chief of staff's pinning the badges of rank of commander of the ship on Capt M. Edi Murdianto, a graduate of the Navy Section of the Indonesian Armed Forces Academy in the 19th class. The KRI "Silea," whose pennant number is 858, is an "Attack" class patrol vessel, received by the Indonesian Navy from the Australian Navy on 6 May 1983. The original name of the KRI "Silea" was the HMAS [Her Majesty's Australian Ship] "Acute," which was constructed by the Evans, Deakin & Co Pty [Proprietary] Shipyard in Brisbane, Australia. HMAS "Acute" was launched at the shipyard on 26 August 1967. KRI "Silea" has an overall length of 32.53 meters, is 6.09 meters wide, weighs 142 tons, has a speed of 20 knots, has engines with a capacity of 3,000 horsepower, and is armed with one 40 mm Bofors gun and other light arms. The crew consists of officers and 18 noncommissioned officers and enlisted men. KRI "Silea" was originally accepted in Australia by Capt M. Edi Murdianto as commander of the ship. It left Australia on 13 May 1983 and arrived safely at Madura Quay at the Naval Base at Ujung, Surabaya, on 19 May 1983. [Excerpt] Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 1 Jun 83 p 87 5170

CSO: 4213/76

EDITORIAL SAYS SIHANOUK MANEUVERS HELP SRV

Paris MOUL KHMER in French May-Jun 83 pp 2, 3

[Editorial by Moulkhmer: "Diplomatic Maneuvers of All Kinds"]

[Text] We have recently witnessed a series of diplomatic maneuvers concerning the Cambodian problem, and they raise a number of questions. Prince Sihanouk is playing some role in these maneuvers, though we cannot yet identify his real objective. At any rate, it seems fairly clear that Hanoi is seeking some kind of arrangement with ASEAN that would enable communist Vietnam to obtain a lot while giving up little or even nothing. The North Vietnamese minister of foreign affairs, Nguyen Co Thach, is currently very active, as evidenced in particular by his visits to Manila and Bangkok in the first half of June. Apparently, he was well received in these two ASEAN capitals, which is not very reassuring to those countries in the region that have already fallen victim to Hanoi's expansionism: Cambodia, Laos and South Vietnam.

Are people moving toward a disguised recognition of a "fait accompli" in these three countries? We naturally hope that this is not the case, and that the five ASEAN countries will remain faithful to the principles they have defended thus far, in accordance with the UN resolutions as they apply particularly to Cambodia. However, we are also familiar with the duplicity of the communist Vietnamese, who are capable of exercising infinite shrewdness and hypocrisy when it is a matter of preserving their interests and territorial conquests. Certainly, we would not presume to give advice to the ASEAN countries, which are part of the free world and which we regard as friendly states. However, may we be permitted to remind them that the Hanoi leaders have always had a single principle in foreign policy of not honoring their commitments.

There are plenty of examples of this. In every case, whether it be the Geneva Accords of 1954 and 1962, the Paris Agreements of 27 January 1973, or the written promises made by Hanoi and the Vietcong to Sihanouk in May and June 1967 concerning respect for Cambodia's territorial integrity "within the confines of its present borders," the commitments made by the North Vietnamese (and their Vietcong auxiliaries) have been cynically violated. Need we remind you also of all the UN resolutions calling for withdrawal of "foreign forces" from Cambodia, and the resolutions of the international conference in New York in July of 1981, also concerning our country but that have remained a dead letter

for Hanoi? Also, we think we can take the liberty of saying to the friendly countries: Be cautious, because you are dealing with treacherous people whose only thought is to deceive you, and they will do so using all means. Hanoi is prepared to draw in its claws in order to seduce ASEAN and achieve recognition, in one way or another, for the Heng Samrin regime and North Vietnamese domination over all of Indochina. However, the North Vietnamese will give up nothing in exchange, no matter what they promise, and, above all, they will not give up their expansionist aims supported by the USSR, aims that in the long run threaten the entire Southeast Asia.

As for Prince Sihanouk, it was learned without great surprise that on 3 June he had sent a telegram to Khieu Samphan (head of the Khmer Rouge) informing him that he wanted to resign from his post as president of the tripartite commission. It had been suspected for some time that he was trying to "walk out" on the coalition in the hope of negotiating with Hanoi. Then he did a turn-about, which was also not much of a surprise knowing how changeable the prince is. On 17 June, LE MONDE reported that he had finally decided to stay in the coalition, at least "for the moment"... What had happened in the meanwhile? We do not definitely know, but can presume that there was perhaps some Chinese pressure to get him back on the straight and narrow path. This episode, part of the varied maneuvers we are currently witnessing, at least shows that Norodom Sihanouk is very anxious to leave the coalition and thus that it henceforth appears very fragile. All this can only benefit Hanoi, which would be pleased to see the prince abandon his partners. He would thus become easily "obtainable," and could serve—still for Hanoi—as bait to seduce ASEAN. In the calculations of the communist Vietnamese, the Heng Samrin regime, endorsed by Sihanouk, could perhaps become acceptable to the noncommunist states of the region, and perhaps even a Western power or two.

Thus, the Cambodian situation is only becoming more complicated, with Hanoi's maneuvers on one side and the maneuvers of the prince on the other, impatient to play his own game, which unfortunately appears to coincide with the interests of our North Vietnamese adversaries. Thus, close vigilance is called for if the Cambodian nationalists want to avoid the danger of being duped.

9920

CSO: 4219/67

PROPOSED INCLUSION OF HENG SAMRIN IN COALITION ASSAILED

Paris MOUL KHMER in French May-June 83 pp 4, 5

[Article by Sok Vannak: "The Dangers of a 'Ceausescu Solution'"]

[Text] Prince Sihanouk, in statements made in Peking and picked up by the Paris press on 30 May, again suggested the "Ceausescu solution" to settle the Cambodian problem. He advocated a four-party coalition to include the Heng Samrin regime as, in his view, "the only way to solve the present impasse" in respect to our country. Also, he clearly revealed his desire to negotiate with Hanoi, Heng Samrin and his puppet regime being regarded only as instruments at the service of the North Vietnamese leaders.

These statements were noted by Western commentators, who analyzed them at some length. To us, Khmer nationalists, they mainly gave rise to some justified concerns. Indeed, we wonder that the prince wants to achieve, and what are his calculations—more or less Machiavellian perhaps—and his ulterior motives. For these proposals, in the present situation, were certainly not made on the spur of the moment; they are the result of specific plans. And it is to be feared that the scheme has no relationship to the national interest of the Cambodian people.

On first examination, moreover, Sihanouk's proposal appears rather remarkable. It is hard to see how this "four-party coalition" advocated by the prince could operate, when we are aware that the present tripartite coalition was difficult to establish and that it is having a hard time sustaining itself. Or would four parties get along better, even though three parties are not doing very well? Also, for a four-party union, at least the four parties concerned would have to agree on the principle of a four-party understanding, which is certainly not the case. Neither the National Liberation Front of the Khmer People (FNLKP) on the one hand, or the Khmer Rouge on the other, favor the solution proposed by Sihanouk. It is obviously inconceivable to think about talks with the Heng Samrin regime until the Hanoi forces have totally withdrawn from Cambodian territory. This withdrawal is even more necessary since, according to Sihanouk, the first task of the envisaged four-party government would be to organize "free" elections in Cambodia, and such elections would have no significance in a country occupied by 200,000 foreign troops, as is currently the case.

What, then, is Sihanouk seeking to accomplish? Any hypothesis is possible in this respect, and none is encouraging. Does he seek the disruption of the tripartite coalition, to leave the FNLPK alone facing the Khmer Rouge? Does he want elections at any price in Cambodia, under the North Vietnamese occupation, secretly hoping that it is he who would win? Or does he want to make the Hanoi leaders aware that he is ready to come to an agreement with them at any price, as long as they approve his return to Phnom Penh as head of state? One can come up with many suppositions, but at any rate none would prove favorable to the just cause defended by the nationalist resistance.

Thus, once again, the prince is spreading confusion in a situation already complex enough of itself. At the same time, he reveals his desire, henceforth very evident, to "abandon" the anti-Hanoi coalition, of which a year ago he agreed to be president. His target is thus the FNLPK; he seems to be aiming at its isolation and ruin. However, does Sihanouk have things well figured out, and is he paying sufficient attention to the reaction of China, which does not necessarily look kindly on the prince's initiative? Fortunately, it is an initiative that does not have much chance of materializing. However, it is true that for our former leader the desire to be head of state in Phnom Penh under the control of Hanoi is no doubt stronger than his very much reduced ambition to remain president of a tripartite coalition directed precisely against Hanoi.

It is thus worth watching the possible developments of the prince's latest maneuver, for experience has shown us that one can expect anything from him, and usually the worst, ever since his formal alliance with the Indochinese communists in March 1970 after his eviction from power. That alliance cost the Khmer people several million dead, and that we are not about to forget.

9920

CSO: 4219/67

MALAYSIA'S PAS SHRUGS OFF ASRI'S DEPARTURE

East Burnham ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Jul 83 p 16

[Text]

The recent conference of the Islamic Party of Malaysia was successfully negotiated by PAS's new leadership. Policies adopted reflect the increasing Islamic awareness in the country

The Islamic Party of Malaysia's (PAS) recent 29th annual Mukhtar, held in Kuala Lumpur, was perhaps one of the most significant events in the party since its formation in 1951.

The absence of Dato Haji Asri bin Haji Muda, the party's de-facto leader from 1964 until his resignation last year, and the election of new national party leaders, were factors of major significance, as was the conference decision to amend the party's constitution.

Asri's resignation during last October's Mukhtar had led to a spate of wild accusations and counter accusations between Asri's group and the so-called young, ulama and radical group (*Arabia*, January). The intra-party conflicts took a turn for the worse when disciplinary measures - dismissals, suspensions and warnings - were taken against Asri and 12 of his supporters. Faced with this situation Asri decided to form a new party, Hizbul Muslimin, and launched it in late March.

Asri had clearly intended, in launching Hizbul Muslimin, to mount a major challenge to PAS by offering a new political platform to his supporters within PAS. This hope,

however, appears to have encountered some difficulties.

Despite Hizbul Muslimin's leaders' high hopes and sometimes rather tall claims, public response to the few public meetings organised by the new party has been cool. Even Asri himself, whose meetings drew thousands when he was PAS leader, managed to attract only 500 listeners when he delivered the launching speech for his new party on March 24. This poor beginning of Hizbul Muslimin, coupled with PAS' ability to hold its ground in the two by-elections held early this year, gave confidence to the new PAS leaders to make the recent party Mukhtar the launching-pad for a new course.

The opening address, delivered by acting president Haji Yusof Rawa, signified the new leadership's attempt to steer the party towards a different set of political attitudes. Haji Yusof called on all governments in the Muslim world to review and undo their existing political systems and elevate Islam to its rightful place in determining the path of their societies and nations.

He further informed the 2,000 delegates and observers that PAS would from now be restructured to allow the ulama to lead and guide the party. Another departure from Asri's style was the new leadership's intention, announced by Haji Yusof, to bring the party's Islamic message to the large non-Muslim minority in the country.

Haji Yusof also criticised the government's economic policies and its Islamisation programme. The move to create Islamic institutions such as the Islamic Bank and the International Islamic University, he declared, was not the beginning of Islamisation, but rather a manipulation aimed at ending or reducing the pressures and demands from the Islamic movement, which is pushing for a total change of the system.

The changed mood of the party was again evident in the biennial election of the party leadership, which took place at the Muktamar. All those elected to the supreme executive council, as well as the ulema, youth and women's councils, were people who had opposed Asri and supported the leaders who took over from him last October. Unity among the new leaders was impressively displayed when most of the top posts were not contested. Thus, acting president Haji Yusof Rawa, acting deputy-president Fadzil Mohammad Noor, ulema chief Haji Nik Aziz bin Nik Mat and youth chief Mustapha Ali all retained their posts without contest.

Another prominent PAS figure, Haji Abdul Hadi Awang, retained his vice-presidency of the party. Abdul Hadi, 36, who undoubtedly has emerged since the general elections last year as the most popular speaker in PAS, has been viewed by political observers as a possible successor to Asri.

Apart from the leadership election, another important item on the conference agenda was the proposals to amend the party's constitution. The most significant proposal was the creation of "Majlis Shura Ulema" (Ulema Consultative Council) as the highest decision-making body in the party. The proposal, however, received a heated reception from the delegates. Several delegates raised the

possibility of difficulties between the Majlis Shura vis-a-vis the supreme executive council and the reconstituted ulema and intellectual council. The proposal was later passed with the proviso that a meeting be convened with the representatives of the party's state branches to consider it further.

The smooth conduct of the Muktamar means that the post-Asri PAS leadership had successfully negotiated an important hurdle. But the real test is yet to be faced. The strong support given to the present leadership means also that expectations of results from the leadership are equally high: what the party leaders have to consider is how to satisfy these demands. Asri's solution of entering into coalition with the ruling UMNO party had been rejected by this group.

The only other option appears to be that of remaining as an opposition party until it is able to defeat UMNO at the polls. Such a possibility, however, is seen by most observers as unlikely. The current leadership of UMNO is more aware of the increased Islamic consciousness of Malay society and therefore has instituted programmes consistent with this awareness. Further, the presence of other Islamic parties such as Berjasa and Hizbul Muslimin itself may still cause some damage to PAS' electoral hopes.

HIGH PROFILE MAHATHIR MUTES CRITICISM OF U.S.

East Burnham ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Jul 83 p 15

[Text]

● Mahathir Muhammad is busy building his international reputation. In the last few months the Malaysian prime minister has visited Britain, his Asean neighbours, and Eastern Europe. He attended the Non-Aligned Conference in New Delhi. At home, Mahathir hosted a much-publicised UN-sponsored conference on Palestine. He has lost no opportunity to stress his country's desire to play a more active role in world affairs.

In London, Mahathir announced that his Buy British Last policy will be amended. British firms will no longer be discriminated against. While the policy pleased the anti-colonial constituency at home, its withdrawal won Mahathir praise from the foreign media. The exercise demonstrated the prime minister's ability to use shock tactics to maximise political and economic gains for his government.

In Asean, Malaysia has always lagged behind Singapore and Indonesia in prestige in foreign affairs. Mahathir appears to be rectifying this. The Malaysian foreign ministry has established itself as an important backer of the Democratic Kampuchea coalition led by Prince Sihanouk in its efforts for recognition against the Vietnamese-imposed regime in Phnom Penh. The Malaysian government believes that while Vietnam's aggressive stance in Indo-China is a threat, Chinese backing for communist insurgencies in the area remains the major long-term security threat.

When Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone visited Malaysia recently, after a tour of Asean countries and Brunei, Malaysia and Japan concluded "the Kuala Lumpur declaration," which will govern Tokyo's relations with Asean.

The agreement provides for mutually beneficial economic ties, transfer of technology and scientific learning and a recognition of Asean as Japan's priority

partner among developing nations. The Japanese leader assured southeast Asia that Tokyo's current militarisation is solely for defensive purposes.

On Palestine, delegates from 40 countries meeting in Malaysia agreed "The Kuala Lumpur Appeal." Some 1.5m Malaysian dollars (about \$650,000) were spent on the Regional Preparatory Conference for Asia and the Pacific, preceding the UN-organised International Meeting on the Question of Palestine scheduled to be held in Paris in August.

While other regional preparatory meetings were described by United Nations officials in private conversations as "routine matters," Malaysian lobbying secured the highest level of participation of any of the preparatory meetings on the Palestine question, with most delegations being led by foreign ministers or deputy foreign ministers.

Although Malaysia has supported the Palestinian struggle since independence, the present government has taken a stronger stand on the issue than previous administrations. Soon after Mahathir's election as prime minister in 1981, the PLO office in Kuala Lumpur was up-graded to embassy level. The Malaysian premier also invited Yasser Arafat for a state visit, which was expected to take place in conjunction with the Asian regional conference. As Arafat was preoccupied with developments in the Middle East, the PLO's

foreign minister, Farouk Kaddoumi, led the Palestinian delegation.

At the Regional Conference, Mahathir criticised not only Israel but also the US, although not by name. He attacked the backers of the Zionist state for helping to perpetuate the misery of Palestinians. He declared that a sovereign Palestinian state was the only acceptable solution to the Middle East problem. His opening speech at the conference was the most unequivocal declaration of support from a Malaysian premier for the PLO, and was acknowledged as such by Palestinian sources.

PLO leaders attending the conference were invited to speak at rallies organised by the ruling United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) and were also presented with donations in public ceremonies.

However, in private discussions with Palestinian leaders, Mahathir said that the PLO should not expect his country to jeopardise its ties with the US to press for a solution to the Palestinian problem.

According to Palestinian sources, Mahathir told Kaddoumi that while Malaysia was prepared to take a more active role in supporting the cause of Palestine, it preferred quiet diplomacy rather than open criticism of the United States. He did, however, agree to discuss with other Asean states the possibility of gaining support from the US for a plan including statehood for the Palestinians.

CSO: 4200/727

RESULTS OF MAHATHIR'S TRIP TO EAST EUROPE

East Burnham ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Jul 83 p 15

[Text] Prime Minister Mahathir Muhammad's May trip to Turkey, Romania and Yugoslavia has been hailed as a diplomatic success, opening the way for increased contacts on the economic, scientific and cultural fronts between the respective countries. Apart from signing bilateral trade agreements--itself a significant achievement since trade between these countries and Malaysia has mainly been through third parties up till now--on barter and counter trading terms, Malaysia has expressed great interest in buying arms, especially from Turkey and Yugoslavia.

Mahathir also tried to get support for his major foreign policy concerns--the situation in neighbouring Kampuchea and the Palestine question. On Kampuchea, Malaysia seeks recognition of the government-in-exile of Prince Sihanouk, whose forces operate against the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh regime from the north of the country. Malaysia is the first country to recognise Sihanouk's government.

In Belgrade, at a banquet hosted by President Petar Stambolic and Premier Milka Planic, Mahathir and Stambolic condemned "the aggressive and expansionist policy of Israel." They called for Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from the territories occupied since 1967 and recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to their own state.

The Malaysian leader also asked his Yugoslav hosts to echo the plight of commodity producers whose products are "lowly priced under an inequitable and inadequate system of international trade" at the 6th session of Unctad to be held in Belgrade in June. Mahathir also expressed concern at the "grave environmental threat of the Gulf oil slick."

In Bucharest, talks with Premier Constantin Dascalescu proved fruitful, with Kuala Lumpur expressing a desire to buy petrochemicals, oil products and drilling equipment from Romania. Businessmen accompanying the prime minister were urged to increase contacts with their Romanian counterparts.

In Turkey, Mahathir met Premier Bulend Ulusu, and discussed the Palestinian problem and the Gulf war.

The two countries signed three pacts, an air-service agreement, an exchange of letters on the Turkish government's support for the establishment of the International Islamic University of Malaysia, and an exchange of protocol between Universiti Teknologi Malaysia and the Middle East Technical University in Istanbul. The air-service agreement provides for both the national airlines to fly to each other's country and points beyond.

Turco-Malaysian relations were further cemented by the declaration of Kuala Lumpur and Ankara, and Johorebaru and Istanbul, as twin cities. Johorebaru had links with Istanbul during the Ottoman period, when its then rulers had seconded Ottoman advisers.

The two countries reiterated the need for increased cooperation, both bilateral and within the context of an Islamic Common Market, under the aegis of the OIC. Representatives from Malaysian companies and Enka Holdings, the giant Turkish conglomerate, signed technical and trade cooperation deals.

CSO: 4200/727

MAJOR FOREIGN MINISTRY CHANGES NEXT YEAR

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Jul 83 p 1

[Article by Zainah Anwar]

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR. Thura. — A major reshuffle involving top personnel in Wisma Putra is expected early next year.

It is widely expected that former Deputy Trade Minister Datuk Lew Sip Hon will be appointed as ambassador to Washington, replacing Datuk Zain Asraai, who is likely to move to the United Nations.

Malaysia's current permanent representative there, Tan Sri Zainal Abidin Sulong, is expected to return home to take over from the secretary-general, Tan Sri Zakaria Ali, who is due to retire in October next year.

Sources said it is likely that Tan Sri Zakaria will be sent to Paris to replace ambassador Tan Sri Rahman Jalal, who is due for retirement.

There is yet to be any official communication between Malaysia and the capitals involved, but these changes are likely to be approved and effected early next year.

Talk at the Malaysian UN mission in New York has it that Tan Sri Zainal will be recalled at the end of the year.

Until Datuk Lew's resignation just before last month's Cabinet reshuffle, it was widely believed that Tan Sri Zakaria

would go to Washington before retirement, with Datuk Zain moving to New York and Tan Sri Zainal to Kuala Lumpur.

But with Datuk Lew now in the picture, a search is on for a senior posting for Tan Sri Zakaria. London, Washington, New York and Jakarta are considered the most senior ambassadorial positions. But the only vacancy in the near future is Paris.

According to sources, Datuk Lew's appointment to Washington would be opportune because of Malaysia's new emphasis on trade and economic issues at its missions abroad.

Datuk Lew's extensive background in trade and commodities would put him in good stead. Datuk Lew was formerly the chairman of the Malaysian Rubber Exchange and Licensing Board and deputy controller in the Ministry of Primary Industries before joining politics.

It is understood that a high-powered Malaysian team that held a series of meetings with senior US officials in May has recommended to the Prime Minister that an ambassador with a business background would be more useful to Malaysia's expanding interests in the US.

COUNTER TRADE UNIT OPERATING FROM JULY

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 28 Jun 83 p 12

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR: A special unit on counter trade, set up recently by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, will be operational from July 1.

Bernama Economic Service understands that the unit, which will serve as an information clearing house will provide advice and guidelines on the conduct of counter trade.

Counter trade is a new type of instrument which Malaysia has decided to use to further promote and increase trade both with traditional and non-traditional markets.

It referred to various types of transactions involving the exchange of goods and service in international trade.

Monitoring

This special unit will be responsible for the overall monitoring of counter trade in the country.

However, it will not take a trade position in

the sense that it will not be directly involved in the actual transactions and negotiations.

This will be left to the respective government agencies and private trading organisations.

Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen is expected to outline the details of the different types of counter trade that will be practised by Malaysia.

It is also understood that arrangements are also being made to obtain an expert in counter trade from the international trade council in Geneva to be attached to the unit as advisors.

The unit will advise businessmen, on matters relating to countries with which counter trade could be carried out, products that can be exchanged under the system, appropriate counter trade mechanism required and the exchange control regulations to be adhered to.

Through counter trade Malaysia hopes to penetrate new and non traditional markets strengthen here existing export markets, establish long-term trade relations, improve here balance of payments position and economise on the use of Foreign exchange.

Counter trade has long been widely practised among the socialist countries of eastern Europe and these countries have now extended this practice in their trade with counter trade has long been widely practised among the socialist countries of

eastern Europe and these countries have now extended his practice in their trade with a number of Western European and other countries.

Growing competitions in all fields of foreign trade coupled with an upsurge in protectionism in world trade had recently led to an increase in counter trade practices. -Bernama

ASRI APPOINTED HAMIM CENTRAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 4 Jul 83 p 2

[Text] KOTA BAHARU, Sun:— The founder of the Parti Islam Malaysia (Hamim), Datuk Haji Mohamad Asri Muda, was appointed president of the party's Central Leadership Council at a meeting of founder members here last night.

The three-hour meeting appointed Haji Ahmad Shukri Shukur from Kedah as deputy president and Haji Wan Ismail Ibrahim and Haji Abdul Wahab Yunus as vice-presidents.

Two others who played a significant role in the formation of the party, Rantau Panjang Member of Parliament Haji Hassan Mohamad and Meranti State Assemblyman Datuk Nik Abdul Rahman Nik Mohamad, were appointed secretary-general and treasurer-general respectively.

The appointments were announced by Datuk Asri himself at a press conference at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport near here before leaving for Kuala Lumpur.

Datuk Asri resigned as president of PAS last year following a leadership crisis in the party and later founded Hamim whose registration was approved early last month.

Datuk Asri also announced the appointment of Haji Mat Saman Mohamad from Perak as head of the Central Ulama (Theologian) Council, Haji Zahari Awang as head of the Central Youth Wing and Ustazah Aminah Abdul Rahman as head of the Central Women's Wing.

Former Kedah PAS deputy commissioner Datuk Sudin Wahab was given the post of Central Information chief and former Kelantan PAS liaison Secretary Haji Salahuddin Mohamad appointed Executive Secretary of the Hamim Headquarters here.

Datuk Asri explained that the Central Leadership Council and its 13 appointed members were only an interim structure pending the party's General Assembly and

election of office-bearers.

He said the General Assembly might be held at a date deemed fortuitous by the temporary leadership.

The decision on the date would take into consideration number of the members and areas that had come under Hamim influence.

Datuk Asri said the meeting also discussed and approved the format of the membership application form and drew up the strategy for formation of Hamim divisions and branches throughout the country.

He said that about 300 people comprising members of the Central Leadership Council, founders and party supporters had officially registered for membership since last year.

New members include the State Assemblyman for Perupuk, Haji Mohamed Nor Awang, who has thus disqualified himself as a PAS member.

Datuk Asri said Hamim would not try to "coax" members of other parties to join Hamim in its efforts to expand its influence.

"As a new party, we are aware that we cannot become strong by such persuasion because true strength lies in the unforced sincerity and desire of others to join us," he added.

Hamim would accept any Malaysian citizen of the Islamic faith as a member as long as the person was sincere in wanting to join the party.

On the possibility of Hamim joining the Barisan Nasional, Datuk Asri said that at present, the question did not arise.

"This is a political matter and we cannot for now speak about or deny it — we leave it to God to decide."

Datuk Asri also announced the names of Hamim liaison chiefs for states in Peninsular Malaysia except for the states of Pulau Pinang, Melaka and Pahang who will be appointed later.

SELL SHARES TO INDIANS, FIRM TOLD

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Jul 83 p 4

[Article by Visa Veerasingham]

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — The Government has directed a number of companies to sell part of their equity to Malaysian Indians to achieve the New Economic Policy's target, MIC president Datuk S. Samy Vellu said here today.

He said this directive was issued in view of the comparatively low Malaysian Indian equity participation in the corporate sector. It has been reported that their share stands at one per cent, while the NEP target is seven per cent.

He said the Government had also been approached to ensure that Malaysian Indian capital is included in the banking sector in view of many commercial banks being on the verge of restructuring their equity holdings.

Datuk Samy Vellu added that an insurance company, which he declined to identify, had also been directed to sell to Malaysian Indians an equity stake of almost 10 per cent.

Speaking to reporters after launching the Malaysian Indian Welfare Fund set up by the Tamilian Social and Welfare Association, he said the MIC had met Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad regarding the Malaysian Indi-

an community's aspirations in terms of achieving the NEP objective.

The Prime Minister, he added, had considered their present position before issuing the directives.

Datuk Samy Vellu also announced that Maika Holdings Berhad, which will bear the brunt of achieving the Indian community's share in the NEP, will be launched on Oct. 1.

Maika Holdings, which is to function as the capital accumulation and investment arm, has been given the task of providing the motivating force to increase Malaysian Indian savings and investment from \$265 million as at 1980 to \$4.9 billion by 1990, meaning an annual savings and investment of \$421 million.

It is understood that MIC-sponsored companies will invest in Maika and Malaysian Indian-based ventures will also be asked to do the same.

In view of such Government support, Malaysian Indians must seriously work towards pooling their resources to ensure that their financial capacity was sufficient to meet investment targets, said Datuk Samy Vellu.

Datuk Samy Vellu will also seek the assistance of the various State Governments to allot land in industrial estates for ventures sponsored by MIC companies.

HUNT FOR COMMUNISTS TO CONTINUE

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 29 Jun 83 p 1

[Text]

KUCHING, Tues.- Security operations against the communist terrorists in the country will continue until they are wiped out, Chief of Defence Forces Jen. Tan Sri Mohamed Ghazali Datuk Seth said today.

'As long as they remain a nuisance to the people and country, we will keep the pressure and keep on punching until they are flat on their belly,' he told newsmen here before returning to Kuala Lumpur.

The General was in Sibu earlier where he was briefed on the security situation especially in the Rascom areas of Sarawak's Third, Sixth and Seventh divisions.

Referring to the ongoing 'Gonzales Lasak' operation launched last April in the Rascom areas he said there had been contact with the enemy and 'we are nearer to

the target.'

Followup operations had also been mounted to hunt them.

Jen. Tan Sri Ghazali said there were 98 terrorists operating in the Rascom areas and 22 in the First Division.

In Kuching, Jen. Tan Sri Ghazali met senior military officers.

He said the security situation in Sarawak was under control and morale of the troops was high.

He told Armed Forces personnel not to be complacent and to maintain rapport with the local people.

He was seen off at the airport here by the General Officer Commanding (GOC) Region Two, Mej. Jen. Datuk Haji Hassan Mohammed Salleh, the commander of the Third Malaysian Infantry Brigade, Brig. Jen. Datuk Abul' As Ismail, and other senior army officers. -Bernama

CSO: 4200/740

MCA MISSION: UNITY OF MALAYSIAN CHINESE WITH NATION

Penang THE STAR in English 29 Jun 83 p 3

[Text]

DESARU, Tern. — Acting MCA president Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan told party members today that they should have the fighting spirit in order to achieve the party's political mission of serving the community.

He said that members should have enough stamina to undertake the long and arduous mission of achieving the party's objectives.

"In a political struggle to fulfill the objectives of a political mission, there is bound to be failure but members should have the fighting spirit," he said at a seminar attended by all Johore MCA branch chairmen at the tourist resort here.

"Members should display discipline and be imbued with the party's political mission in order to fulfill the objectives on which the 34-year-old party was founded."

Datuk Dr Neo said that over the years, the MCA had built a strong infrastructure and inculcated in its members a strong sense of mission and its primary objective is to unite the Malaysian Chinese community.

He said MCA believes that there must be unity first in order to contribute towards national unity.

"In order to achieve this unity the party must have a

strong infrastructure and we launched a 10-point programme towards this end," he said.

"The 10 points have become the catalyst in showing the way in building a strong infrastructure in the various fields of human endeavour for the community."

Datuk Dr Neo said these projects had laid a strong and steady foundation for the party and were not only on-going projects but also examples of determination and perseverance.

He also told party members that the eight-point plan introduced recently was an extension of the infrastructural foundation laid by the 10 party projects.

"This plan will provide the directional approach for the community and covers a wider spectrum of the various fields of human endeavour covered by the 10 projects," he said.

"The eight-point plan, which includes the formation of the Chinese Community Liaison Council (CCLC) and the Socio Economic Development and Research Advisory Council (Sedara), will form a link between the MCA and the people."

"All eight committees of the plan will work towards the realisation of unity of the Chinese community."

CSO: 4200/744

GOVERNMENT GOING ALL OUT TO INDUSTRIALIZE NATION

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Jul 83 p 2

[Text]

LABUAN, Sat. — The Government is determined to take remedial measures to mobilise all quarters to achieve the objective of turning Malaysia into an industrialised nation, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam said today.

If necessary, the Government would formulate a new policy and strategy to achieve the objective, he said at a naming ceremony of a ship, *Yayasan Tujah*, at the Sabah Shipyard here.

Datuk Musa said the

world recession and trade restrictions in developed countries could no longer be used as excuses for not looking for new markets for Malaysian products.

Incentives

He urged manufacturers, entrepreneurs, traders and exporters to be more aggressive in promoting Malaysian products overseas.

Besides expanding the existing markets, new markets in other countries with high purchasing power should also be

looked into, he said.

"Let us learn the secret of success of the Japanese and South Korean companies by practising new techniques to expand and open new markets," he said.

South Korea, he said, exported more manufactured goods based on natural rubber even though it did not have rubber estates while Japan had emerged as an important industrialised nation though it does not have natural resources.

To encourage industrial growth, the Government had provided vari-

ous incentives including the introduction of a liberal tax system to attract investors to help expedite the industrialisation of the country.

In international trade, besides organising trade missions to several countries, the Government had set up a system to monitor the world's demand for Malaysian products, he said.

To promote the marketing of Malaysian products overseas, the Government had introduced the export guarantee system, he said.

Datuk Musa expressed

the hope that Sabah would also make rapid development in the manufacturing industry.

He praised the Chief Minister, Datuk Harris Salleh, who he said, had shown dynamic leadership, especially in this field.

Third

On the activities of the shipyard, Datuk Musa said he was happy to know it had been awarded a contract worth more than \$75 million.

Earlier, the executive chairman of Sabah Shipyard Sdn Bhd, Datuk Lai Fook Kim, said he hoped the Federal Government would commission the shipyard to build vessels for the Government agencies.

The *Yayasan Tujah*, which was named by Datuk Maria, is the third to be commissioned by Yayasan Sabah Sdn Bhd.

— Bernama.

TRADE PRIORITY FOR MALAYSIAN MISSIONS ABROAD

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Jun 83 p 1

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Malaysian missions abroad are being re-orientated to give greater priority to trade and to help Malaysian exporters secure orders, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said today.

He said under the Government's new directions and the Malaysia Incorporated concept, the private sector had a right to

seek assistance from Malaysian embassies and trade offices overseas and officials there had a duty to help.

The Deputy Minister said at a Press conference on his return from the Unctad meeting in Belgrade that he would hold discussions with colleagues in the Trade Ministry on how best to achieve the re-orientation.

Sheikh Kadir said he had asked the Malaysian embassies in Belgrade, Rome, Jeddah, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi to submit in-depth reports on several cases where Malaysia was losing export orders to third country firms.

"In line with the Malaysia Incorporated concept, our embassies are being re-orientated to give greater attention to trade matters," said Sheikh Kadir.

"There is now a decision that our embassies, trade commissions and MIDA offices should work as one body to promote Malaysia as a manufacturing and trading country, besides being an exporter of primary commodities," he said.

In line with this new image, Sheikh Kadir said, future Malaysian trade missions going overseas would be instructed to go armed with

specific proposals on which decisions can be made and not only with general proposals in hand.

The Deputy Minister said he had stopped over on the way back at Rome, Jeddah, Abu Dhabi and Kuwait for discussions on the re-orientation of Malaysia's foreign missions there.

Sheikh Kadir disclosed that in discussions at the embassies in Belgrade and Rome he discovered that the two countries were buying rubber from the London and Amsterdam markets.

In Jeddah, Malaysia's palm oil is being bought at cheaper prices from Japanese kogonohas than their price quoted by Malaysian producers.

In Kuwait and Abu Dhabi, he discovered many instances in which Malaysian firms had failed to win contracts for timber and food products when competing against Singapore firms. Some of these firms were only agents for Malaysian producers.

Sheikh Kadir said Malaysia had at one time enjoyed a near-monopoly of the canned pineapple market in Kuwait. But due to various marketing failures, Malaysia has totally lost the canned pineapple market there.

SHI'ITE INFLUENCE ON YOUNG MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN U.S.

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Jul 83 p 2

[Article by Rashid Bakar]

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Young Malaysian students in the United States are being influenced by Muslims of the Shi'ite sect from Iran.

The influence is so great that some of the students have openly declared that the Sunni sect followed by Muslims in Malaysia is wrong.

As a result, charges against Muslims that they were *kafir* (infidels) could be heard on US campuses, not only among foreigners but Malaysians themselves.

A Masters in Finance student wrote to say that an open rift between followers of the two sects is evident from the

blatant refusal by Iranian students to allow Malaysians to lead them in prayers.

There have also been reports of marriages between Malaysian girls and Iranian students, says the writer, who is studying in Maryville, Illinois.

Recently, two Malaysian girls students married Iranians through the *muthaath* or contract way, which is peculiar to the Shi'ites.

Under this type of marriage, a husband may divorce his wife at will, and tradition states that this sort of marriage was first practised during exigencies like war. It is a temporary marriage to suit a temporary situation.

He said the two girls had earlier sought the views of their seniors and had been ad-

vised against marrying according to the *muthaath* way.

But the two girls had their way because their parents consented to their marriages.

The writer said that had the girls' parents been aware of the real situation, they would not have allowed their daughters to get married to Shi'ite Muslims.

He said one problem that worried Malaysian students was the *muthaath* way of marriage. Their worst fears were borne out recently when a Malaysian student was divorced by her Iranian husband after she had a child.

The writer said most of the students who were affected by the situation were sent here for further studies by the Government after they had completed their Form Five.

CSO: 4200/743

ISLAMIC BANK GOES INTO OPERATION

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Jul 83 p 1

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — The country's first Islamic bank went into operation today, with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad signing up as its first customer, after a simple opening ceremony.

Launching the bank, he stressed that the setting up of Bank Islam Malaysia Bhd (BIMB) is to prove that the assimilation of Islamic values in the country's economy will not bring calamities.

"It is not a manifestation of the arrogance of Muslims or a symbolic effort to demonstrate the country's Islamic religious fervour.

"What is needed, is not a symbolic gesture, but an effort to ensure that the Islamic banking system can play a role in a modern economy."

The Prime Minister said the setting up of Bank Islam was to provide an alternative to the Western (traditional banking) system.

It was also a way of following Islamic principles in financial management and modern economy.

He said Muslims who wished to see the progress of Islam should give their support as the success of Bank Islam will prove that Islam is for all times.

He said: "If not for politics, this bank will be accepted by all Muslims in Malaysia easily. Unfortunately, as politics seems to take precedence over religion for a section of the population, the bank has attracted criticisms and condemnations from certain quarters.

Progressive

"By right, the establishment of the bank should be well-received by all Muslims, yet we still hear criticisms which should not be heard.

"There are those who question why other banks should continue to operate in the country if there is already an Islamic bank. Then there are others who say that Bank Islam is not Islamic because its staff wear neckties."

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he was convinced that if BIMB was well received by Muslims and non-Muslim customers, then the bank would expand rapidly.

"If Bank Islam succeeds, not only will other Islamic banks be set up in the country but also throughout the Islamic world and non-Islamic countries to serve modern and progressive economies.

"But if the bank fails, the belief that Islam is suitable for all ages and all civilisations will be

undermined. This will lead to the thinking that Islam is not suitable for progress."

The Prime Minister reiterated that there were no plans to eliminate other banks because not all the citizens in the country are Muslims and also because the banks are part of a wider system.

Malaysia is dependent on its trade with the world, especially non-Islamic countries.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir stressed the bank was Islamic only in the mode of its management and operations and not due to the fact that it was owned, managed or patronised by Muslims.

Bank Islam is a modern institution required to meet the capital and financial conditions of a modern economy.

The launching ceremony was witnessed by Cabinet members, including Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamsah and Culture, Youth and Sports Minister Anwar Ibrahim, former Bank Negara Governor Tun Ismail Ali, former Finance Minister Tun Tan Siew Sin, bankers and members of the diplomatic corps.

The Prime Minister said the ceremony marked the first phase of Bank Islam's success — which is the fruition of the recommendations of the National Steering Committee.

MALAYSIA'S STAND ON THE COMMON FUND

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 30 Jun 83 p 28

[Article by Hardev Kaur]

[Text]

MALAYSIA's decision to ratify the Common Fund does not mean a change in its perception that multilateral negotiations and agreements have so far not been very useful, said Encik Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadil yesterday.

The Deputy Foreign Minister, who led the Malaysian delegation to the Unctad VI conference in Belgrade, told the Press that Malaysia had "never said that it did not want to have anything to do with multilateral negotiations."

Despite its scepticism, Malaysia would continue however to lend support to multilateral institutions like Unctad and Gatt. Being practical, Malaysia recognised that in the end "global problems required global solutions."

In addition most of these global problems had peripheral implications which affected the Least Developed Countries, including the island states and land-locked states. Because of this, multilateral forums had some value.

The current impasse at

the Unctad conference, and the attitude of such developed countries as the United States and the USSR, had convinced Malaysia that its emphasis on bilateral relations and the promotion of South-South cooperation was sound.

Encik Abdul Kadir pointed out that Malaysia's readiness to participate in the Unctad-sponsored Common Fund was evident from the fact that it was one of the first few countries to sign the agreement as well as to make commitments to the second window of the Fund. Malaysia has committed US\$1 million to the Fund.

Encik Abdul Kadir said that the international Press reports from Belgrade had accused Malaysia and the United States of playing the "chicken and egg" game. The US had said that it was not ratifying the agreement as Malaysia, the leading producer of primary commodities, had not done so. Malaysia was on its part being held back by the negative US attitude to the Fund.

Since Malaysia had in good faith agreed to ratify the Common Fund, it was now up to the United States to ensure the Common Fund be launched by the target date, Jan. 1, 1984.

He added that without the support of the United States and the USSR, who have shown no indications up to now of ratifying the agreement, the Common Fund would not be effective. "We need their support to help ensure the success of the Fund."

Summing up his impressions of the month-long Unctad VI conference, Encik Abdul Kadir said that members of the Group of 77 started with the hope that the developed countries would be more forthcoming and sympathetic after the Williamsburg meeting of the top seven.

The developing countries have so far been disappointed by the negative attitude of the developed countries at the conference, belying the promising tone of the Williamsburg communiqué.

CSO: 4200/742

PORAM REPORTEDLY BOYCOTTS SALES TO INDIA

STC Revision Expected

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 1 Jul 83 p 1

[Article by Vong Nyam Ming]

[Text]

MALAYSIAN palm oil refiners are determined not to sell a drop of oil to India's State Trading Corporation (STC) until trading terms unilaterally imposed by the Indian government monopoly are renegotiated to mutual satisfaction.

Sure of their solidarity, the refiners are confident that the STC will revise, if not revoke, the new trading terms which they say are unfair.

In the meantime, the powerful Palm Oil Refiners Association of Malaysia (Poram) has instituted a boycott against sales negotiated under the STC's new trading terms.

Faced with Poram's domination of the industry — and the effective halt in palm oil trade unless the new Indian conditions are relaxed — the STC last week sent two of its junior brokers to hear the Malaysian industry's viewpoint.

While Poram has not yet released the result of the meeting with the STC

officials, it is learnt that the meeting ended on an inconclusive note — with the two officers saying that decisions would have to come from New Delhi.

But some interim concessions have been made in an effort to maintain the flow of edible oil to India. It is learnt that the STC will now accept tenders quoting two sets of prices — one under new trading terms and the other under old terms.

In line with the boycott, brokers taking part in STC's tender are only quoting under old terms. It is not known if the STC has made any deals with Malaysian traders adhering to Poram's line of action which has the silent backing of the Malaysian Oil Palm Growers Council.

Two traders who quoted prices following the STC's new conditions have since been effectively blacklisted by Poram.

STC's tender exercise

which closed on June 15 did not receive any bids from Poram members except the above two. Poram has since advised all its members not to support those who are undermining industry efforts. The embargo against deals under new terms seems to be holding up well.

But some palm oil refiners say the formal withdrawal of the more onerous terms set out in STC's new buying contract may take up to six months.

A meeting convened by Poram last week to get together palm oil industry people, traders, brokers and shipowners reached a consensus on a boycott on all deals with the STC unless business was done under old terms.

The meeting also resulted in a Poram representation on the issue to the Ministry of Primary Industries with the object of getting the Malaysian government to negotiate

for a relaxation of the new terms.

STC's new trading terms call for all tenders to quote on the basis of landed quality and landed weight. Besides new and tighter conditions governing shipment, Malaysian palm oil traders say that selling on the basis of landed quality is very unfavourable for them compared to the old terms under which they quoted prices based on shipped quality and landed weight.

A leading palm oil broker said it was much more risky selling on terms specifying landed quality because shippers had no control over landing conditions — referring specifically to oil shipments which spoiled while the vessel waited for a berth in a congested port.

"We don't know what happens when a ship arrives. The quality of the oil can change if a port congestion delays berthing and unloading," he said.

Poram Denies Boycott

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 2 Jul 83, p 1

[Text]

THE Palm Oil Refiners Association of Malaysia (Poram) said that it holds India, Malaysia's largest buyer, in "high esteem" and is grateful that it has shown willingness to hear Poram's views on the current controversy over the wording of new purchase contracts.

In a statement, Poram strongly denied that there was any boycott of palm oil sales to India as mentioned in a story which appeared yesterday in these columns. It described the story as being "inaccurate and misleading and a complete distortion of the present situation."

Poram said that India was cooperating in taking whatever measures

were possible to facilitate the continued sale of large volumes of Malaysian palm oil to India. It also pointed out that there were a large number of submissions for last Thursday's Indian tender issued by its State Trading Corporation.

It said that contrary to what had been stated in these columns, Poram had "merely taken upon itself the task of representing the sellers' views within the industry and this in no doubt included the interest of not only Malaysian refiners but also the majority of the parties involved in palm oil sales to the STC."

"If the parties had decided (not) to offer under new conditions imposed

by the STC, it was because of the fact that many of the new conditions were difficult to meet and would have caused undue hardship to suppliers."

Poram also said that contrary to the report, it acknowledged that any buyer was within his right to modify contract conditions and to impose any new ones in the course of his purchases.

It realised that the new conditions could have been due to "certain unhappy experiences in past transactions that made it now necessary for the STC to plug the loopholes."

Poram was also grateful for the recent visits by officials from STC to seek

ways and means of meeting its requirements without undue hardship to suppliers.

It said that two senior executives of the STC were at present personally reviewing bulking and shipping operations at Pasir Gudang and that they had earlier reviewed similar facilities in Port Kelang and Butterworth.

"Such interest and personal participation is viewed as being positive and Poram could certainly do without malicious and damaging statements from the Press that will do nothing in assisting us in our efforts to clear any misunderstanding created during the present situation."

CSO: 4200/742

PENINSULA TRADE DEFICIT \$1.5 BILLION BY END APRIL

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 1 Jul 83 p 20

[Text]

EXPORTS of crude oil to Japan from Peninsular Malaysia continued to fall in the first four months of this year, earning for the country less than one third of the \$370 million level touched in the same period last year.

In volume terms, the amount shipped to Japan was about 157,000 tonnes — valued at \$161 million — as against some \$44,000 tonnes from January to April 1982.

Exports to Thailand, however, have risen more than six-fold to around 340,000 tonnes. It was only about 55,000 tonnes in the same four-month period of 1982. Earnings rose proportionately, from slightly more than \$30 million to nearly \$234 million.

The latest preliminary trade statistics for the peninsula show also that crude oil sales abroad have realised \$1.170 billion so far this year, only about \$23 million higher than the amount the country's top earner drew in during the same period last year — even though total exports rose 6.1 per cent, thus illustrating the effects of lower unit prices.

As a result, the share of

crude oil in the peninsula's total exports dropped to 13.6 per cent by the end of April from 16.7 per cent at end-March, which was the ratio posted in the first few months of 1982 before oil prices softened.

Only a few export items rose in unit value. Rubber was among them. It averaged 207 cents per kg over the first four months of this year. (The price in the same period of 1982 was 194.6 cents). But its share of total earnings was about two percentage points lower at 11.8 per cent.

Electronics components, most of which are produced in free trade zones and which the Statistics Department continues to include in the archaic category of thermionic valves and tubes, performed better. Exports were valued at \$1.133 billion, significantly higher than the \$931 million they earned in the same period last year.

As a result, their share in total export earnings went up to 13.1 per cent. The ratio was only 13.6 per cent in the first four months of 1982. This category of exports thus was the second largest earner.

Unit values of sawn timber, fresh and frozen

prawns and canned pineapples were also higher. However, these are minor items which together accounted for less than five per cent of total peninsular export earnings.

On the import side, high purchases of machinery and transport equipment continued, their share marginally exceeded 40 per cent by value of Peninsular Malaysia's total import bill at the end of April. The share was 38.0 per cent in the first four months of last year.

Most other imports remained stagnant — like crude oil and related materials, the second largest item at 18.8 per cent — or dropped, for example food for which the peninsula's bill was two percentage points lower than in the same year-ago period.

With export receipts coming to \$7.50 billion and the import bill amounting to \$9.01 billion, the peninsula's trade balance over this period thus went deeper into the red. Already \$1.3 billion by end-March, the trade deficit widened to \$1.5 billion at the end of April, or some 28 per cent higher than that for the same period last year.

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS USE OF MALAYSIAN LANGUAGE IN UNIVERSITIES

Kuching THE SARAWAK TRIBUNE 2 Jul 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Bahasa Milestone"]

[Text]

In this month the five universities in the country will be starting their new academic session and, for the first time ever, all new students in these universities will be studying for their degrees completely in Bahasa Malaysia.

This means that the gradual process of replacing English with Bahasa Malaysia as the medium of instruction in Malaysian schools and other institutions of learnings has finally reached its culmination after many years of hard work and planning by officials and teachers of the Ministry of Education.

What this means — having Bahasa as the medium of instruction right up to and including university level — is that Bahasa Malaysia has finally, and rightly, become the true language of instruction in Malaysian schools.

At this stage in the development in the use of Bahasa Malaysia as the medium of instruction, it is worth bearing in mind

that, in as far as Sarawak is concerned, all this was achieved in the space of only 20 years. Prior to 1963 and independence, the usual medium of instruction was English and it was only in the rural primary schools in Malay areas that Bahasa was used. One major drawback in this system was that students coming from rural Bahasa or Iban language schools and joining the secondary schools — which were all in the main towns — were expected to somehow cope with lessons in English despite the fact that they had only learnt the language for year or two at the most and usually from untrained teachers. Naturally enough, most of the students could not cope and thus there was a high drop-out rate amongst Bumiputra students in the secondary schools of those days — something the effect of which can still be experienced to this day.

It is also worth remembering that it was only 20 years or so ago

that the various teachers unions in the state were busily passing resolutions calling for the continuation of English as the medium of instruction and warning of the dire consequences that would ensue should Bahasa be introduced.

A lot of water has passed under the bridge since those days and now we have Bahasa education right up to university level. But what is even more important is that by having all students use the same medium of instruction they are able to communicate with each other across the racial barriers through a common language and it is this, more than anything else that makes it so important that the study of Bahasa Malaysia be encouraged for each and every person within the country — in order that there no longer remains any form of language barrier to hinder the free and easy inter-mixing of Malaysians of various races.

TECHNICAL AID FOR ISLAMIC NATIONS

Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 2 Jul 83 p 3

[Text]

Kuala Lumpur, Fri.
— The Malaysian technical cooperation programme for developing countries will also be extended to Islamic countries, the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi, said today.

The countries will include the Gulf states, Bangladesh, the Maldives and African countries.

So far the programme has been extended to island states mainly in the south Pacific region.

The Minister said the programme for Islamic countries was being prepared and would be finalized soon.

"It is important to have stronger ties with these Islamic countries as it can bring mutual benefit," he told newsmen

after being visited by Papua New Guinea's Foreign Minister, Mr Rabbie Namaliu, at his office here.

Under the programme, Malaysia will extend assistance in fields in which it had expertise and this included offering training facilities relevant to recipient countries.

His discussions with Mr Namaliu centred on technical and economic cooperation and how this could be stepped up.

Papua New Guinea was also interested in assistance in rubber technology and personnel training for administrative and other services, Datuk Abdullah added.

He said the National Institute of Public Administration (Intan) had taken steps to accommodate international requests for training.

— Bernama

CSO: 4200/741

INTERNAL SQUABBLES IN SNAP

Kuching THE SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 29 Jun 83 p 2

[Article by Francis Siah]

[Text] *Daniel Tajem is not a bad sport. But he is a loser and a lousy one at that. That does not make him a good sport either.*

James Wong knowingly is seasoned. But he has too many principles, sometimes one too many. On top of that, he is too disciplined to be involved in so many disciplines. That makes him unknowingly unseasoned.

On June 19, the latter had tears in his eyes when he announced that the former has been sacked from his party SNAP.

"It is a very painful decision. After all, I brought him into the party and today...", sobbed the party chief, a politician since time immemorial, a businessman, a golfer, a poet - a very special breed indeed!

That same day, the former returned from a Landa picnic with his family to face two 'bombshells.' One from a servant who told him that his dog died early that afternoon and the other from an aide that he was no longer needed in SNAP.

He said later he was expelled not because of the election affairs but because he was still a deputy chief minister.

"But I have my obligation to 1.3 million Sarawakians, not to the 13 people who wanted me out," he insisted.

You talk of sportsmen who cannot accept defeat gracefully!

So the turn of events following the SNAP CEC's dramatic decision has been interesting, even exciting. Never before in the history of Sarawak politics has the internal squabbles of a party been brought so out in the open - everything was spilt.

Interestingly enough, both James Wong and Daniel Tajem did not create much of a fuss, at least not in the press, after the June 19's drama. It seems they prefer to let their side-kicks do most of the talking or the spitting.

Already newspapers editors have a field week (judging from things, they are likely to be kept busy for many more days yet) with endless press statements and letters. But the two lead actors remained silent.

Nevertheless, the 'stars' have won praises as well as criticisms (from foes and friends naturally) and perhaps there are no better observations of the two than these statements.

"James Wong is a very sincere politician. He has toiled and sacrificed for SNAP all these years without a single complaint. But it seems he is complaining now; he is different from the James Wong of yester-years.

It appears that his style of politics is no longer suitable for the SNAP of today. Moreover, he hasn't got the time to concentrate on the complications of the party. It is fair that he steps down as president."

"Daniel Tajem, no doubt, is a very hard-working minister. He possesses the image of a good leader. He is young, well-educated and intelligent.

But he talks too much about serving the people. The doubts of his sincerity are there. Perhaps he is more concerned about his cosy executive chair on the sixth floor of that tall building at Petra Jaya."

Putting the party president and the deputy chief minister aside, the SNAP dilemma today has been described by a number of concerned politicians as a very, very sad.

Noted one (not from party SNAP): "To think that this party which formed the first Sarawak Government after Independence to arrive at this pitiful state 20 years later. Surely, SNAP deserves to do better than that. It's sad, very sad."

Remarked another (also not from the party): "Let's face it. If the two groups don't stop fighting, a lot of people are going to suffer. I will feel very sorry for the ordinary SNAP members. If there is to be an open-split, the unimportant members...those crocodile hunters at the Batang Lupar, those rattan weavers in the Baram, the ice-cream peddlers in Limbung...they are the ones who will feel the 'pinch' most, not the few top leaders. For their sake, the two camps should work towards a reconciliation."

Yet another chipped in: "What's this talk of party discipline and party unity? We all know these are the essentials. It's just unfortunate that the same people who are advocating these principles are not living up to them. I ask you, if they are disciplined and united, will there be such a mess today? It's sad, this whole business."

To sum up from these comments, it appears that the SNAP dilemma is certainly complicated indeed. Besides the discipline and unity issues, there is also the question of multi-racialism and cutting right into it, the question of Dayak interests.

If current developments are any indication, no solution is yet in sight. The cabinet post issue may be solved when the Chief Minister is home but the internal squabbles may well go on and on...until perhaps the day the leaders suddenly 'wake' up to realise that SNAP is heading towards the road of no return.

MALAYSIA STARTS COUNTER TRADE WITH PAKISTAN

Kuching THE SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 25 Jun 83 p 25

[Text]

Kuala Lumpur.
Fri. Bernama-ES
— Malaysia has completed a counter-trade transaction with Pakistan, the first under this concept.

Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen told reporters here yesterday that Malaysia supplied palm oil to Pakistan in exchange for fruits and rice.

Although the transaction was not a large one, this could be considered a success, he said.

Tengku Rithauddeen said countertrading might be conducted with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Brazil shortly.

Rumania and Yugoslavia have also proposed countertrading with Malaysia with the aim of exchanging capital and transport equipment for rubber, tin, palm oil and manufactured products.

Tengku Rithauddeen said the recent visit of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad to Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and the Maldives had enabled

private sector officials who had accompanied him, there to discuss the possibilities of counter-trade.

He hoped that Malaysian 'sogoshosha' type companies would play an active role in the concept.

He said, "Malaysian companies should go beyond our shores."

The Minister announced that a special unit had been set up in the international trade division of his Ministry as a information and reference for the concept.

GUIDANCE

The unit, he said, would provide advice and guidance but would not involve itself in direct countertrading transactions.

Tengku Rithauddeen said his Ministry had also held discussions and provided information to the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Soviet Union, Brazil, Argentina and Thailand on Malaysia's countertrading concept and its implementation.

Similar discussions

have also been conducted with local and foreign companies, and government agencies.

He said his Ministry had also discussed with local financial institutions their role in countertrading and the extent of their support and contribution towards the concept.

Tengku Rithauddeen said he had asked bankers to provide specific proposals to aid the private sector in counter-trade.

This was because the private sector would be the agents for countertrading, with the government providing assistance under the Malaysia Incorporated concept.

Tengku Rithauddeen explained that the unit was not an intermediary for buying or selling countertrade products and would not be subject to business risks.

The unit would, among other things, advise the government and the private sector and monitor the progress of the implementation of the countertrading concept, he added.

MALAYSIAN-MADE RIFLES IN FIVE YEARS PREDICTED

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Jul 83 p 5

[Article by Sabry Sharif]

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — Malaysia is expected to produce its own assault rifles in five years, sources said today.

The sources said that an Assault Rifle Task Force or Pasukan Petugas Assault Rifle (Papar) has been formed to work out the details on the production of the infantry weapon.

The sources added that the task force has met several times over the last few months to discuss the conditions for the production of the weapon and other related matters.

It is understood that one of the conditions is that the manufacturer must set-up his plant here and that adequate training be given to the local people.

The task force is chaired by Encik Saufi

Abdullah, the chief executive of Heavy Industries Corporation of Malaysia (Hicom) and a former deputy secretary-general (development) in the Ministry of Defence.

The production of weapons for the armed forces comes under the purview of the National Defence Production Committee (NDPC), headed by the Deputy Defence Minister Abang Abu Bakar Mustapha.

It is believed that the production may take the form of a joint-venture between a foreign small arms manufacturer and Hicom.

The sources said that before the production is undertaken the task force must evaluate the various proposals submitted by foreign small arms

manufacturers to ascertain which firms provide the most attractive deal.

The sources also said that to achieve this Mindef will carry out a tender exercise.

No details were available on the exact date for the opening of the tenders.

Design

Singapore, Thailand and Philippines are already producing their own assault rifles with the cooperation of foreign firms.

Currently the Malaysian Armed Forces are using the American made M-16.

Senior Mindef officials said the assault rifle project is still being discussed by the task force

and the NDPC.

They said they could not confirm the expected target date for production since it depends on whether the Government has enough funds for the project.

They explained that before the project gets off the ground the task force has to look into the design and specifications of the desired assault rifle.

The calibre of the rifle has also to be decided although sources believed it to be of the 5.56mm type.

The Government has also got to look into the local resources available to participate in the project.

The Government may want the Armed Forces central manufacturing workshop to participate in the project along with Hicom and the foreign small arms manufacturer, they added.

COUNTRY EMBARKING ON FIRST DOMESTIC ARMS PRODUCTION PROJECT

Penang THE STAR in English 3 Jul 83 p 5

[Article by Mak Joon Num]

[Text]

MALAYSIA is on the verge of embarking on her first domestic arms production project — the manufacture of an assault rifle.

Tenders have been called and 15 firms, ranging from established arms manufacturers to relative newcomers, have put in their proposals for the project which will be carried out jointly with Heavy Industries Corporation of Malaysia (Hi-com).

Behind the desire to manufacture our own assault rifle, instead of merely buying them at a cheaper price from the various established arms manufacturers, is a national defence strategy tending towards increasing self-reliance.

"We realise that Malaysia should have a certain industrial defence capability as part of the nation's self-reliance policy," explained Deputy Defence Minister Abang Abu Bakar Datu Bandar Haji Mustapha.

"The Government has now identified the assault rifle as one of the strategic items we need. In times of war, erstwhile friends can become our enemies or choose to remain neutral, and our arms supplies can be cut."

The project is, therefore, a sort of insurance policy.

"At least we will have the basic requirements and a basic defence infrastructure if we have to mobilise for war," Abang Abu Bakar added.

The rifle factory will be a priority project in the sense

that every soldier must have a personal weapon.

The Deputy Defence Minister also said that since Malaysia already had an ammunition factory (Malex), a rifle factory would be complementary.

The National Defence Production Committee had directed a special sub-committee to undertake a study of the various General Staff Requirements (GSR) for the rifle, how the country was going to produce it, whether Malaysia should go it alone or opt for joint production with an Asean or overseas partner, the export possibilities and the lead times for production.

Theoretically, it would take from two to three years before the first rifle can be turned out from the factory from the word "go."

Initially, it would probably be a mixed bag, with a few rifle components locally manufactured, the rest imported and then assembled.

The Deputy Minister added: "The final step would be local manufacture, because we are talking of creating local employment at the same time. And the more components we can make ourselves, the more jobs there will be for Malaysians."

"One important factor is to decide how much local raw materials the rifle would use, for example, the by-products of our petroleum industry."

However, he estimated that it would be at least four to five years before a completely Malaysian rifle could be produced.

Abang Abu Bakar dismissed talk that any defence industry would be a waste of money for Malaysia since there was such a limited market.

"What people don't realize is that it is an economic activity and that it's difficult to rationalise defence and economic requirements," he said.

"When it comes to cost, if the parent arms firm decides to manufacture every component itself, the cost would probably be quite high.

"But if it decentralises and allows local sub-contractors to gain experience, the finished rifle would very likely be cheaper."

There is, however, the question of security, because the foreign firm transferring the technology to Malaysia might be afraid that its secrets might be leaked out. For this reason, the manufacturer might insist on centralized production.

Elaborating on the question of self-reliance, the Deputy Minister added that Malaysia's defence capabilities must cover three levels — combat, logistics and industrial production. However, the industrial aspect had been largely neglected so far.

He said that every country hoped to have its own defence production capability, and Malaysia was no exception.

"When you talk of neutrality and non-alignment, you are assuming that no

one will help you, so we have to establish a basic defence production capability, and we are starting virtually from scratch," he said.

"We're not after mere assembly but manufacturing, design and research and development. It's a long-term plan and there should be a balance between economic growth and defence growth."

Possible Order Form for 400,000

IT WILL TAKE about 400,000 assault rifles to completely re-equip Malaysia's Armed Forces.

The regular Army would require about 40,000, the Territorial Army 30,000, and the Navy and Air Force about 10,000 rifles each.

In addition, provision must be made for 140,000 more rifles, based on the policy of having two reserves to back up each regular soldier.

Thus, it would appear that the initial requirement

would be for 580,000 assault rifles. But this figure does not take into account the needs of the Police and the Police Field Force, which would push the figure up quite a bit more.

Apparently, most potential manufacturers are seeking some sort of reassurance that the Malaysian Army and Police would not go their own independent ways when it comes to replacing the basic infantry rifle.

In any event, 400,000 ri-

fles is a fairly substantial figure, and should be sufficient to attract most arm manufacturers provided the Government can guarantee that the military and paramilitary forces would use the locally produced weapons as their standard equipment.

The question of standardization is not a particularly difficult one. Currently, both the Army and Police Field Force front-line units are using the M-16A1 rifle, the first modern Western-

designed assault rifle which the Vietnam War made famous.

Moreover, the M193 5.56mm round (one of the types currently manufactured by Malcom) can be fired from most second generation rifles of the same calibre, although the performance of this round cannot be compared with the heavier SS 109.

However, the Army has no plans to replace its M-16s until 1990 because of financial constraints.

This makes the picture rather more complicated since the most important customer for Malaysia's first rifle factory — initially anyway — is the Army.

Although it is possible that Malaysia can export some of her production even in the first year, the arms market is so highly competitive that it is doubtful that the local factory can achieve significant export sales in the first few years.

After all, most customers prefer to buy directly from

the parent firm if they have a choice. Malaysia must show faith in its own weapon first.

Indeed, even Singapore's widely publicized and really quite excellent SAR 80 has yet to find a major customer apart from the Singapore Armed Forces.

As such, most foreign manufacturers would need a guarantee that our Armed Forces will buy the Malaysian assault rifle before they decide to come in.

But there remains a gap

of four to seven years during which the Army will have to soldier on with its M-16s. The question is, will it refurbish its worn-out M-16s, replace them with new orders of the same weapon, or will the Army buy its assault rifle of the future from the manufacturer which wins the Malaysian rifle contract?

This is an important question which must be resolved before any decision to produce a Malaysian assault rifle can be taken.

Choices Open To Us

WHAT will be the basic design requirements of the Made-in-Malaysia rifle? It will definitely be based on the 5.56mm round, the present rifle cartridge of the Malaysian Armed Forces.

There are a number of excellent assault rifles currently available, among them the M-16A1, the AK-76 firing the 5.56mm round, the Israeli Galil, the German G-41, the Belgian FNC, the French Famas, the Singapore-manufactured SAR-80, and the Austrian Steyr AUG.

The Israeli weapon as well as the Soviet AK-76 can be ruled out for political reasons.

The choice of an assault rifle is so important that it would be unwise of Malaysia to manufacture a prototype rifle which might take years to debug and overcome its teething problems.

Since defence production is regarded as an economic activity by the Government, the rifle should be good enough to attract foreign customers eventually.

The parent manufacturer thus must have considerable experience with the rifle and

should be sufficiently large and established so that any research and development experience can be passed on to Malaysia.

At the same time, the parent firm must be from a non-aligned country politically well-disposed towards Malaysia and it must offer the project without any political strings.

It must also be prepared to guarantee complete co-operation under any and all circumstances, and there must be no export restrictions, especially on technology transfer.

The rifle itself must be basically cheap, reliable, simple and suitable for eventual complete tooling-up in Malaysia with a minimum of expense and trouble.

Certain quarters are very much in favour of joint-production with an Asian partner, each making certain parts of the rifle.

Although an attractive idea in theory, there are sound reasons why Malaysia should opt for sole production.

In the first place, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines already have their own small-arms factories — each of them producing a different type of weapon.

Besides the age-old fear that your friend today might be tomorrow's enemy, all independent countries prefer to establish their own defence industries if they can afford it.

Best Man-Stopper of Them All

THERE are old soldiers who will still swear that the old Lee-Enfield .303 bolt-action rifle was the best man-stopper used by the Malaysian Army.

Designed at the turn of the century and used as the basic British rifle in various versions in two World Wars, it is a powerful and accurate weapon.

On the other hand, it is long and heavy, kicks like a mule and the rate of fire is fairly slow, depending on how fast a soldier can work the bolt handle to chamber a fresh cartridge, fire it,

and eject the spent cartridge.

The next rifle adopted by the Army in 1962/63 was the British Self-Loading Rifle (SLR), a Belgian design based on the 7.62mm Nato round.

It was also a powerful and accurate rifle, its rate of fire limited only by the speed with which a soldier can squeeze the trigger, but almost as unwieldy and heavy as the Lee-Enfield.

Subsequently, the American M-16 assault rifle replaced the SLR from 1971/72. It was light and compact. The high-velocity

5.56mm calibre cartridge which it fires is only half the weight of the 7.62mm cartridge.

According to the Commandant of the Armed Forces Staff College, Brig.-General Dato Mustaffa Awang, "there's no question of the Malaysian Army going back to the 7.62mm calibre in its present form."

"The SLR is too long, too heavy and it can't be shot from the hip. In the type of terrain we are operating in right now, the weight and length of a soldier's rifle is crucial."

"In addition, with logis-

tics on the back of the soldier, he can carry almost twice as much 5.56mm ammunition for the same weight.

"Terrain is everything. Running uphill and downhill with a heavy rifle, you'll be so tired you're incapable of shooting."

"The length of weapon is important, too, because when you aim your weapon, all you need is just one leaf to block your view, and the chances of a leaf blocking your sights is more the longer your rifle."

RICE MILLERS RIPPING OFF MILLIONS IN SUBSIDIES

LPN, ACA Investigating

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Jun 83 p 1

[Article by Balan Moses]

[Text]

ALUR SETAR, Tues. — Unscrupulous rice millers in Kedah are cheating the National Padi and Rice Board (LPN) of millions of dollars in subsidies meant for farmers, a State Exco member alleged today.

Rice Industry Committee Chairman Datuk Osman Aroff said both the LPN and the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) are investigating.

"Something has to be done to eradicate this malpractice which has resulted in losses in millions of dollars to the Government," he told reporters.

Datuk Osman said LPN and the ACA are investigating a rice miller in Jerlun near here for allegedly siphoning about \$1 million in padi subsidies.

The State Executive Councillor said it was not yet possible to say if LPN officers are involved in the rip-off as alleged in a newspaper report.

"It is also not possible to say at this stage how

much in subsidies is involved although more than \$1 million has been mentioned."

He said a raid on the rice mill on Wednesday was successfully carried out following information from the public about malpractices allegedly being carried out by the rice miller.

Datuk Osman said the State LPN had also been directed to be on the alert for other rice millers who acted as middlemen in siphoning padi subsidies meant for padi farmers.

Procedures

Farmers are eligible for a subsidy of \$10 per sack of 60kg of padi which can be collected from LPN offices using receipts issued by the rice millers.

He said the LPN had investigated several other rice millers in the State in the past but was unable to bring them to book due to lack of evidence.

"Some of the rice millers are believed to have tampered receipts for the same bag of padi, enabling them to obtain four times or more the subsidy due to them.

"In this way, the Government has been cheated of millions of dollars by these unscrupulous middlemen who have resorted to such devious tricks," he said.

Datuk Osman said many padi farmers were not taking the subsidy rip-off seriously and thus were indirectly obstructing efforts to overcome the problem at an early stage.

He said farmers took the easy way out by ignoring procedures required in the sale of padi by selling their padi to middlemen who offered them immediate cash.

The State Government, he warned, would not hesitate to take action against errant rice millers and others who siphoned the padi subsidies as they were indirectly working against the Government.

Datuk Osman advised farmers to seek the advice of LPN officials if they faced difficulties in selling their padi.

Last December, State Executive Councillor Datuk Zaimel Abidin Johari alleged in the State Assembly that some LPN officials and farmers were siphoning subsidies offered by the Government.

He said 30 people involved in the subsidy scandal had been detected by the authorities and were being investigated by the police.

Auditor General Not Surprised

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Jun 83 p 1

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — The Auditor General's Office had warned the National Rice and Padi Board (LPN) on the possibility of malpractices occurring as a result of what it described as weaknesses in the subsidy system.

It had also advised the LPN to review the subsidy system and take the necessary precautions. The warning was not heeded.

"I am, therefore, not at all surprised that such malpractices as reported in the *New Straits Times* exist," Auditor-General, Tan Sri Ahmad Noordin Zakaria, said today.

"The management of the LPN was not receptive to or appreciative of our criticisms."

He was commenting on a report that unscrupulous rice millers in Kedah were cheating the LPN of millions of dollars in subsidies meant for farmers.

A rice miller in Jerlun, near Alur Setar, was alleged to have been siphoning off about \$1 million in padi subsidies.

Last year, the Auditor-General's Office carried out a survey, a form of evaluative audit, to determine whether the subsidy scheme, implemented in 1980, had achieved its purpose.

A report on the findings identified several critical points in the system which needed to be plugged. Recommendations to improve the control of subsidy distribution and to tighten the scheme were made by the Auditor-General's Office.

Under the scheme, farmers get \$18 coupon for each sack of 60 kg of rice they sell to the Government through the LPN.

Most farmers still sell their padi directly to rice millers. The millers issue their own bills of sale which is the only document needed to obtain the subsidy coupons.

There is, therefore, nothing to stop millers from entering a higher amount of padi in the bill of sale than what is actually sold.

In Kedah, millers are believed to have issued receipts for the same bag of padi, enabling them to obtain four times or more the subsidy due to them.

Rice Industry Committee chairman Datuk Osman Aroff had said both the LPN and the Anti-Corruption Agency were investigating the cases.

Meanwhile, **BALAN NOSES** reports from **ALUR SETAR**: The National Padi and Rice Board (LPN) may introduce a new system of padi subsidy payment later this year to curb malpractices.

It is learnt that the new system is expected to cover most of the loopholes in the existing system.

Datuk Osman Aroff when asked about rumours of a new subsidy payment system said yesterday that he was yet to be briefed on any changes in the current system.

"Whether there is going to be a new system or not, concerted efforts have to be made to stop the siphoning of funds by middlemen," he said.

Coupon

He said certain rice millers had exploited the present system to make large profits by deceiving unsuspecting padi farmers.

It is learnt that there have been instances where farmers had reported loss of their subsidy coupons to the police after having collected their subsidies.

Through this farmers would have received double the amount due to them by resorting to this tactic.

It has also been alleged that certain LPN staff retained the subsidy coupons after rice payment to farmers and later made payments for themselves.

Rice millers are also believed to be cashing in on the system by sharing the subsidy with the farmer who in return got free transportation to their mills.

However it is learnt that tighter checks on such infringements have curbed much of these practices considerably over the past few months.

CSO: 4200/743

NEW WAY TO ALLOT HOUSES IN JOHOR

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Jul 83 p 2

[Text]

JOHOR BAHRU, Fri. — Johor is to introduce a new system of allotting houses to the people to ensure a fair quota for Bumiputeras, Datuk Musa Hitam said.

The Deputy Prime Minister said last night that Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ajib Ahmad had agreed to the system proposed by the State Umno liaison committee, of which Datuk Musa is chairman.

Fund

He told reporters after chairing a meeting of the committee at the Menteri Besar's residence that the session had reviewed economic activities in Johor and would make several recommendations to the State Government.

Datuk Musa said the State Umno wanted to ensure that Bumiputeras got a fair share of houses regardless of whether they were built by the public or private sector.

Datuk Ajib said he would re-organise the housing bureau of the State Economic Development Corporation to achieve this aim.

Datuk Musa said the Johor Umno Education Fund established last year had agreed on awards for the children

of party members.

The fund will present from this year two scholarships for higher studies and 15 prizes for outstanding performances in the STPM, SPM and SRP examinations.

The five top STP candidates will receive \$750 and books worth \$300 each.

Convention

The first SPM candidate will receive \$500 and books worth \$100. The other four will each get \$300.

The best SRP candidate will receive \$300 and books worth \$100. The other four will each be given \$200 and books worth \$100.

A prize worth \$1,500 will be presented for outstanding performance at the university level. Another worth \$1,000 will be

for the college level.

Datuk Musa said the prizes would be presented at the annual State Umno convention, which this year will be held in Desaru from Aug. 11 to 13.

Datuk Ajib is chairman of the fund while State Umno youth leader Haji Muhyiddin Mohamed Yassin is vice-chairman.

Hernama

CSO: 4200/743

PETRONAS, NIPPON OIL SIGN CONTRACT FOR OIL SUPPLY

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Jul 83 p 1

[Text]

PETRONAS has signed a term contract for the first time with Nippon Oil for the supply of crude oil. The one-year agreement which commenced on April 1 was signed retrospectively on June 10.

The latest issue of *Nada Petronas* adds that the agreement provides for supply of 3,000 barrels of crude oil per day to Nippon Oil.

Datuk Rastam Hadi, Petronas managing director, signed on behalf of the oil corporation while Mr M. Watanabe general manager of Nippon Oil Company Ltd signed on behalf of the Japanese buyer.

This makes Nippon Oil the sixth Japanese term customer for Petronas crude oil.

The term agreement with Nippon Oil is believed to be a follow-up to the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit to Japan

earlier this year when he pressed for more Japanese imports of Malaysian crude.

Last year exports of crude petroleum to Japan until recently Malaysia's biggest customer, fell by 12.3 per cent to 3.4 million tonnes thereby reducing its share to 28.6 per cent in 1982 from 37.9 per cent in 1981.

During the first four months of this year Japanese offtake recorded a dramatic decline. It only imported 157,687 tonnes valued at \$101.2 million compared with 344,281 tonnes valued at \$369.9 million over the same period in 1982.

Thailand on the other hand increased its offtake substantially from Malaysia. Its imports of Malaysian crude rose from 55,635 tonnes valued at \$38.4 million during the first four months of 1982 to 341,430 tonnes valued at \$223.8 million for the same four months this year.

CSO: 4200/742

DISTINCT NEED TO FIND MORE OIL IN MALAYSIA

Kuala LUMPUR BUSINESS TIMES in English 2 Jul 83 p 1

[Article by Ho Sook Han]

[Text]

DESPITE the current world oil glut, there is "a distinct need now to find more oil in Malaysia," Chairman of Shell Companies in Malaysia Bob Jetses said yesterday the country would become a net importer of oil in the mid-1990s at current production levels unless new deposits were located.

The government should thus give incentives to oil companies to use expensive techniques to obtain maximum possible recovery of oil from existing fields, he said. It should also open up new and larger areas for exploration, particularly offshore Peninsular Malaysia, and at more favourable terms. Shell is presently developing oil offshore Sarawak and Sabah under production sharing contracts with Petronas while Esso and Carigali, a Petronas sub-

sidary, are active offshore Peninsular Malaysia.

Asked why it was urgent to step up oil development when the country was diversifying away from oil, particularly into natural gas — reserves of which were four times that of remaining crude reserves — Mr Jetses said it was difficult to diversify completely away from oil at an economic price.

Petroleum, he said, would continue to be needed as a basic component in the manufacture of a vast range of industrial and consumer products. Investing in oil production facilities now would also help guard against possible future disruptions in oil supply.

Asked what he considered the right incentives, Mr Jetses said it would depend on the contract

areas. Lowering taxes on oil companies, as Britain had done, was one option.

Mr Jetses was guest speaker at a talk organised by the Socio-economic Research Unit of the Prime Minister's Department. His topic was the changing pattern of energy consumption in the world.

He said existing terms and conditions in Malaysia were not attractive enough since oil prices had come down and substantial investment was needed, he said. "A typical well offshore Sarawak costs some \$5-10 million to drill." Regarding Shell's contract areas offshore Sarawak and Sabah, Mr Jetses said most of these were well explored but there was still the possibility of finding small fields with commercial potential.

Malaysia was in the

medium cost category as far as production cost per barrel was concerned, he said. It stood between Saudi Arabia, where production cost was less than US\$1, and the North Sea, where it was about US\$17-20.

On liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), he said the government would have to provide more incentives to promote its use as a motor fuel, particularly with the huge increase in supply expected when Terengganu gas was landed.

Shell, which recently opened its first filling station offering motor-LPG, has applied to open 15 more in Kuala Lumpur and the surrounding area.

Mr Jetses said it was doubtful that the current low oil prices would stimulate a great increase in global consumption.

CSO: 4200/742

BRIEFS

DAKWAH ACTIVITIES--Kuala Lumpur--Mon.--UMNO Youth leader Encik Anwar Ibrahim said today that Dakwah activities should be carried out at all times, and not be a 'seasonal phenomenon' only. Closing a day-long religious seminar organized by the UMNO Youth Dakwah Bureau at Masjid Negara here, he said continuous dakwah activities were vital for success of the government move to incorporate Islamic values in all national development programmes. Encik Anwar, who is Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, said he was not satisfied with the dakwah activities carried out among UMNO Youth leaders although there might now be more religious talks. He noted that most of the activities were held only on specific occasions or at certain seasons. The Quran, he said, advocated the right values in the daily lives of its followers so as to create a balanced community. The seminar was attended by 50 youth movement delegates in the country and is aimed at enhancing understanding on values contained in the Quran apart from coming out with a positive approach for incorporation of Islamic values in a multi-racial society.--Bernama.
[Text] [Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 28 Jun 83 p 3]

BAHASA MALAYSIA COURSES--Miri, Fri.--About 700 government employees began their Bahasa Malaysia courses at Sekolah Rendah Kerajaan Syed Osman here today. The one-hour daily classes will be conducted till the end of the year. The classes are for beginners and advanced level as well as for those preparing for their Bahasan Malaysia paper in the SRP and SPM examinations. The divisional development officer, Anthony Druce, who opened the course said the course conducted by the State government was to improve the use of Bahasa Malaysia in Government departments. It was also to prepare for the implementation of Bahasa Malaysia as the official language in the State in 1985. [Text] [Kuching THE SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 25 Jun 83 p 2]

CSO: 4200/741

GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS WORK PERMIT APPROVALS, BANS NEW RECRUITS

Pensang THE STAR in English 30 Jun 83 p 3

[Text]

SINGAPORE, Wed. — The Singapore Government has withdrawn all work permit approvals for new foreign workers and stopped a ban on new recruits, the Labour Department confirmed here today.

The directive, which will affect thousands of potential recruits from the region's labour-exporting countries, was contained in a letter issued yesterday by the Labour Department's work permit section to all companies involved in bringing in labourers.

The letter said that all approvals granted on or before last Tuesday (June 23) were withdrawn with immediate effect, and the companies were told not to recruit any more foreign workers.

A Labour Department official confirmed today that the directive had been sent but declined to give details.

The move will affect labourers from countries like India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines who are big suppliers of labour to Singapore's industries.

Although no immediate explanation from the Labour Office was

available, the move appears to be a follow-up to a recent Ministry statement that 20,000 foreign workers here would be phased out over the next two years.

Minister of State for Labour Wong Kwei Cheong said last week that these workers would be repatriated when their work permits expired in the next two years.

Although construction workers were excluded from this move, the latest directive has hit the construction industry hard.

A director of a company which imports labour said he was surprised by the move because the demand for labour here was picking up with a number of multimillion-dollar projects taking off.

He said he had received work permit approvals as recently as early this month and stood to lose money on the recruitment exercise.

Business for recruitment companies was picking up here especially with the beginning of construction work on the first phase of the \$5 billion Mass Rapid Transit project.

The director said companies hit by the new restrictions would urge the Government to reverse the directive. — AFP.

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BRIEFS

ATTACKS IN CENTRAL SRV--Here is a report on the battle activities of guerrillas and people in the Central Highlands of central Vietnam against Le Duan forces on the Kon Tum battlefield: On 9 June, guerrillas attacked the Le Duan soldiers at (O Ear Grung Teak Sla) in (Buon M'kum) District killing two and seizing an AK, 50 rounds of ammunition, and a number of secret documents. On 15 June, Le Duan soldiers stepped on the guerrillas' mines at the orchard of (Plei Buon Sak) village; two were killed and four wounded. On 25 June, guerrillas attacked the Le Duan soldiers 2 km north of (Buon Tan) village, killing two and wounding a number of others. They also seized 2 AK's, 60 rounds of ammunition, and 2 hand grenades. In sum, guerrillas in the Central Highlands in central Vietnam killed six Le Duan soldiers, wounded four others, and seized three AK's, [words indistinct] of ammunition, two hand grenades, and a number of secret documents. [Text] [BK220304 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 21 Jul 83]

CASUALTIES IN PLEIKU--Here is a battle report from the Pleiku battlefield: On 6 June, the Le Duan soldiers, while committing aggression at (Kinih) Hill, stepped on mines and were attacked by guerrillas of the Central Highlands in central Vietnam. Two Vietnamese soldiers were killed and five others were wounded. On 17 June, the guerrillas attacked the Le Duan soldiers 2 km east of (Buon L'pung Sla) village, killing three enemy soldiers and wounding seven others. They also seized an AR-15 and 20 rounds of ammunition. In sum, the guerrillas of the Central Highlands in central Vietnam killed 5 Le Duan Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 12 others, and seized an AR-15 and 20 rounds of ammunition. [Text] [BK200234 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 29 Jul 83]

CSO: 4212/52

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

WRITERS ASSOCIATIONS' COOPERATION PLAN IMPLEMENTED

Hanoi VAN NGHE in Vietnamese 18 Jun 83 p 12

["Arts and Letters Everywhere" Column: "Cooperation Between Nguyen Du School of Journalism and Maxim Gorki Academy of Literature"]

[Text] Implementing the plan of cooperation between the Vietnam Writers Association and the Soviet Union Writers Association and receiving an invitation from the Academy of Literature bearing the name of M. Gorki, a group of leading cadres from the Nguyen Du School of Journalism consisting of Nong Quoc Chan, Vice Minister of Culture and Principal of the School; and Khai Vinh, Vice Principal, visited the Soviet Union from 25 May to 8 June 1983.

Leadership committees of the two agencies engaged in the elementary and advanced training of writers in Vietnam and the Soviet Union discussed many vital problems on strengthening the relationship between the two schools. The Soviet Union will assist the Nguyen Du School of Journalism in many aspects. Annually, the M. Gorki Academy of Literature will send cadres to lecture at the Nguyen Du School of Journalism while simultaneously receiving a number of cadres to study, to participate in on-the-job teaching and to gain leadership experience.

Nong Quoc Chan and Khai Vinh expressed their sincere thanks to the Soviet Union Writers Association and the Academy Leadership Committee for their wholehearted assistance and at the same time sought full understanding of the school's organization experience from the enrollment step to aptitude training, organization to enter real life and other tasks necessary to nurture the ability of the young. The group also sought specific understanding of the various departments and bureaus in the academy.

7300

CSO: 4209/475

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

GDR-SRV 1983 AID AGREEMENT SIGNED IN BERLIN

OWO90751 Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Jul (VNA)--"The German Democratic Republic fully supports the peace initiatives and constructive proposals of the three Indochinese countries for reducing tension and creating a region of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia," said Dr Gerhard Weiss, vice chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, at the signing in Berlin Friday of an agreement on GDR aid for Vietnam for 1983.

He continued: "The GDR people follow with deep sympathy the Vietnamese people's efforts in implementing the resolutions of the Fifth Party Congress and of the fourth plenum of the party Central Committee."

Werner Krolikowski, Political Bureau member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, and acting chairman of the Council of Ministers, was present at the signing ceremony.

Vice-Chairman Gerhard Weiss stated that the GDR consider the three Indochinese countries' initiatives as to be an inseparable part of the peace campaign of the socialist community.

In reply, Vietnamese Ambassador Phan Van Kim thanked the party, the government and people of the GDR for their great and valuable assistance to the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation in the past as well as to their national construction and defence at present. He also said that the signing of the agreement was a new expression of the fraternal friendship and all-sided cooperation between the two countries.

CSO: 4200/730

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

DEFENSE MINISTER GREETS ALBANIA ON ARMY DAY

OW081618 Hanoi VNA in English 1522 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi, 8 Jul (VNA)--General Van Tien Dung, minister of national defence of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, has sent his warm greetings to his Albanian counterpart, Prokop Murra, on the 40th Army Day of Albania (10 July).

The message says:

"We are glad to note that over the past 40 years, the Albanian Army has grown and strengthened continuously. Under the leadership of the Party of Labor of Albania, the fraternal army and people of Albania fought with great valour against fascism to liberate their country. Since liberation, the Albanian Army, together with the entire people of Albania, has obtained great achievements in all fields in socialist construction and national defence.

"On this occasion, I wish to express my gratitude to the government, people and army of Albania for their strong and consistent support to the Vietnamese people's past war of resistance for national liberation, as well as to their present endeavours to build socialism and defend their socialist homeland.

"We wish the Albanian Army new and greater successes in training to increase its combat readiness and to firmly defend the socialist gains of the Albanian people.

May the friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples and armies of our two countries constantly consolidate and develop.

I wish you the best of health, happiness and many successes in your important task."

CSO: 4200/730

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

INDOCHINESE ENVOYS MEET NEWSMEN--Hanoi, 22 Jul (VNA)--The communique of the ministerial conference of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam was introduced to pressmen in New Delhi at a press conference jointly sponsored on Thursday by the ambassadors of the three countries. At the conference, Kampuchean Ambassador Thin Chuni highlighted the great significance and success of the Indochinese ministerial conference convened in Phnom Penh on 19 and 20 July. In reply to pressmen's questions, he said that the situation in Kampuchea is developing satisfactorily. He denounced China for continuing its hostile policy towards the three Indochinese countries and trying to block the dialogue between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries. Ambassador Thin Chuni expressed his high appreciation of India's great political and diplomatic support to Kampuchea, and spoke of the fine prospect of the economic cooperation between Kampuchea and India. Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Quang Tao said that the three Indochinese countries that initiated the trend of dialogue between the countries of Indochina and ASEAN aimed at ensuring peace, stability and security in Southeast Asia. This trend of dialogue has been widely supported by the world public, he stressed. [Text] [OW222128 Hanoi VNA in English 1618 GMT 22 Jul 83]

GOVERNMENT DELEGATION VISITS NICARAGUA--Hanoi, 20 Jul (VNA)--A Vietnamese party and government delegation arrived in Managua on 17 July for the celebration of the fourth anniversary of the liberation of Nicaragua. The delegation, led by Dong Si Nguyen, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, was greeted at the airport by revolutionary Commander Victor Tirado, member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front; Arnaldo Urutia, deputy head of the International Department of the front; and Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga. [Text] [OW202024 Hanoi VNA in English 1546 GMT 20 Jul 83]

CONDOLENCES SENT TO VENEZUELAN CP--Hanoi, 20 Jul (VNA)--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam has sent a message of condolences to its Venezuelan counterpart over the death of party Chairman Gustavo Machado. The message says: "We are deeply grieved to learn of the death of Comrade Gustavo Machado, chairman of the Venezuelan Communist Party, a veteran revolutionary combatant of the working class and labouring people of Venezuela, one of the founders of the Venezuelan Communist Party, and a

great friend of the Vietnamese people. We would like to convey our profound condolences to the Central Committee of the Venezuelan Communist Party, to the fraternal working class and labouring people of Venezuela, and the bereaved family." [Text] [OW201954 Hanoi VNA in English 1539 GMT 20 Jul 83]

TRUONG CHINH GREETES COLUMBIA'S NATIONAL DAY--Hanoi, 19 Jul (VNA)--President of the Council of State Truong Chinh has sent greetings to President Belisario Betancur Guartas on the 173rd independence day of Colombia (20 July). On this occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach sent greetings to his Colombian counterpart, Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo. [Text] [OW200851 Hanoi VNA in English 0753 GMT 20 Jul 83]

ALBANIAN ENVOY HOSTS RECEPTION--Hanoi, 8 Jul (VNA)--Albanian Ambassador Syrja Laze gave a reception and a film show here Thursday evening to mark the 40th anniversary of the Albanian Army Day (10 July). Present at the event were Lt Gen Tran Van Quang, deputy minister of national defence; Deputy Foreign Minister Ha Van Lau; and other senior Vietnamese officials. Ambassador Syrja Laze and Lt-Gen Tran Van Quang exalted the two peoples' tradition of indomitable struggle against foreign aggression, and raised toasts to their new achievements in socialist construction and national defence and to the further consolidation and development of the friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples and armies of Vietnam and Albania. A meeting was recently held at the artillery officers' school for the same purpose. It was also attended by Albanian Ambassador Syrja Laze. [Text] [OW082052 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 8 Jul 83]

CSO: 4200/730

AGRICULTURE

HAI HUNG HARVESTS BUMPER FIFTH-MONTH, SPRING CROP

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 24 Jun 83 pp 1,4

[Article: "Hai Hung Achieves Highest Fifth-Month and Spring Rice Yields and Volume of Production Ever; Cadres and Workers of the Pha Lai Thermoelectric Plant and Hoang Thach Cement Plant Awarded 150 Tons of Paddy and 15 Tons of Pork"]

[Text] VNA--Hai Hung recently met to evaluate the success of the fifth-month and spring crops, discuss measures for rapidly and systematically mobilizing grain for the state, and decide immediate tasks -- accelerating the pace of work on the 1983 tenth-month and winter crops to achieve greater success.

This year's fifth-month and spring rice crop was judged to be a tremendously, uniformly successful crop. The entire province planted 100.7 percent of the area plan norm and added nearly 600 more hectares of fifth-month and spring rice than last year. Weather at the beginning of the season was cold and, at the end of the season, extremely hot but, thanks to having the network of the material and technical base, especially water conservancy and power, established for many years, and with the new contract structure coupled with close guidance from party and administrative echelons, virtually the entire area was sown and transplanted during the best part of the season, new varieties accounted for 94 percent, etc. The rice was densely transplanted, was carefully tended (the entire area was weeded twice, 50 percent of the rice area was weeded three times, fields had sufficient water and fertilizer applied increased substantially, a hectare on the average receiving 7.4 tons of stable manure and 250 kilograms of nitrate fertilizer), and scarcely suffered from harmful insects and disease.

The rice was uniformly good. Early rice plantings, more than 50 percent of the area, attained yields of more than 36 quintals per hectare (the pure Nong Nghiep 8 rice variety attained 45-50 quintals). It is anticipated that the entire province's overall yield for this fifth-month and spring crop will attain from 35 to more than 36 quintals per hectare, 1-2 quintals higher than last year. This is the fifth-month and spring crop with the highest yield and volume of production ever. Except for Chi Linh District which attained under 30 quintals, all other districts are attaining rice yields of 35 quintals per hectare or more. Tu Loc and My Van Districts could attain 40 to 45 quintals. A number of cooperatives are attaining 50 to 60 quintals per hectare.

Hai Hung has specific policies and measures for mobilizing 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring crop grain with the largest volume ever, more than 30 percent of the

volume of production. This includes agricultural taxes according to the new regulation, water conservancy fees, payment of tractor wages with paddy, stable obligation, etc. All will be finished during the first week of July. The province has reserved a relatively large volume of items consisting of nitrate fertilizer, cloth, cement, bicycles, bicycle inner tubes and tires, etc., to exchange for paddy outside the obligation of the farmers in an attempt to complete the general grain mobilization quota for all of 1983 early.

In the atmosphere of enthusiasm over harvesting a bumper fifth-month and spring rice crop, the Hai Hung Provincial People's Council, following the recommendation of the provincial VCP committee and provincial people's committee, decided in its 23 June session to award 150 tons of paddy and 10 tons of pork to the cadres and workers at the work site building the Pha Lai Thermoelectric Plant as a contribution to encourage the site to step up the general offensive for 90 days and nights of revolutionary acts with the objective of putting machinery teas no 1 into operation; and award 5 tons of pork to the cadres and workers of the work site building the Hoang Thach Cement Plant.

6915

CS0: 4209/463

AGRICULTURE

LONG AN TIES AGRICULTURAL SUCCESS TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 24 Jun 83 p 3

[Article by Le Huyen Thong in the column "Party Building": "Long An Provincial Party Organization Congress (Third Round): Step Up Socialist Transformation Connected With Redistribution of Labor and Development of Production"]

[Text] Looking back on the past 3 years, the Long An Provincial Party Organization Congress (third round) evaluated enthusiastically and unanimously the overall, solid successes, especially in socialist transformation and the development of agricultural production. The Dong Thap Muoi area -- one of the province's great possibilities in terms of land -- has built lines of communications and water conservancy, started to obtain alluvial water from the Mekong River, opened up many great prospects in intensive cultivation to increase the number of crops per year, and made arrangements to accept additional laborers to build the new countryside. In the southern area of the province, thanks to applying technical advances, many localities have models attaining from 8 to 10 tons of paddy per hectare over a wide area. Long An is beginning to map out an efficient agricultural-forestry-piscicultural structure throughout the province and in each production area. The farmers' scientific knowledge, combined with balanced production experience, has been and is being put to use in consonance with the soil, water and weather conditions of each area. In 1982, gross grain production in Long An was 450,000 tons, a 17 percent increase over 1979, and the highest level ever. Industrial crops, livestock raising, afforestation and marine products also expanded more than before. Long An has built centralized areas specializing in the cultivation of industrial crops (sugarcane, peanuts, pineapples, rush, jute, etc.) on a scale of from 5,000 to 8,000 hectares per area. The expansion of industrial crops is opening up the possibility of exploiting the capabilities in land and labor, developing additional occupations and trades, creating diversified sources of goods, and supporting domestic consumption and export. The area under vegetables and beans is developing well in the Duc Hoa, Ben Thu, Van Co, Can Duoc and Can Giuoc areas as well as in the city of Tan An.

Agricultural transformation is achieving initial results in terms of coordinating land adjustment, building production solidarity teams and production collectives, redistributing labor, improving fields to increase the number of crops and for intensive cultivation, in which Tan Thanh District is gaining many good lessons of experience.

Industrial, small industrial and handicraft production, posts and telegraph, communications and transportation, culture, education, and sports, especially for strengthening national defense and security, are making considerable progress.

Production is expanding to create conditions for distribution and circulation efforts. For more than 2 years, procurement to concentrate sources of goods in the hands of the state has made gigantic progress. Annually mobilized grain attained between 70 and 80 percent of the marketable grain output. The number of pigs bought during the past 3 years (1980-1982) increased ninefold and sugar fivefold compared with the previous 4 years. Thanks to acquiring a good source of goods, not only has Long An continuously overfulfilled the plan quota for deliveries to the central government, it also has reserve forces of goods to satisfactorily support the needs of the localities, to exchange with friendly provinces and for export. By actively obtaining goods and money, the commercial sector in the province is surging forward to take over and control the market in a number of staple items such as rice, pork, sugar, flour, soap, etc., gradually contributing to reforming and managing the market. The import-export business is contributing to overcoming the tense situation in providing supplies and raw materials for production and is starting to have accumulation. The budget is increasing rather well and finances collected to promptly meet expenses are increasing each year. Cash collections and expenditures are ensuring new balance, not only meeting local requirements but also increasing cash reserves, a portion of which is contributed to the central government.

The congress also correctly evaluated shortcomings and weaknesses, noteworthy of which has been the failure to satisfactorily exploit the capability in labor and land within the province. Consequently, grain production, gross social product and national income remain low. The state-operated commercial and marketing cooperative network has not been expanded; in many places material is not supplied to the producer and goods do not get into the hands of the consumer. An unreformed private commercial element regularly competes in purchasing and selling with the state and takes advantage of the commercial sector's loopholes to disrupt the market. A number of installations are still carrying on business illegally. In the circulation and distribution sector, there still remain instances of slipping off state goods for crooked merchants. This prolonged situation is the result of many factors; it first of all stems from the still vague perceptions of many cadres, party members and party organizations concerning the struggle between the two paths: laxity in managing the economy and society; instability in the process of transforming agriculture in connection with transforming industry and commerce; failure to give due consideration to developing the collective ownership of laboring people so as to strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat; failure to steadfastly struggle against manifestations of rightist thinking, lack of the sense of responsibility, lack of discipline, and lack of vigilance vis-a-vis the multifaceted destructive schemes of the enemy.

The point the congress addressed is the slow development of the party, including an element of cadres and party members that has declining virtues, is degenerate and is estranged from the masses, which are serious problems. Many places still downplay self-criticism and criticism and still try to save face or cover up for each other. There are still unqualified party members who should continue to be expelled from the party.

In the next 3 years, Long An "is concentrating on vigorously developing agricultural production with a view toward firmly resolving the grain and food problem, ensuring local needs, and contributing increasingly to the central government and to export; developing industry, small industry and handicrafts in connection with agriculture and gradually forming the efficient economic structure of the localities; at the same time, building and developing culture and society, the effect of mutual assistance, and gradual stability in order to advance toward enhancing a step the material and cultural life of the laboring people. Constantly improve the spirit of revolutionary vigilance, strengthen and reinforce national defense, maintain political security, social order and safety, maintain close coordination between the economy and national defense, and ensure satisfactory implementation of the two tasks of building and defending the fatherland."

Agricultural production, the core being grain and food, is considered to be the prime front. The congress set the production mission for each specific area. The southern area of the province consisting of Vam Co, Can Duoc and Can Giuoc, the city of Tan An, and the villages on both sides of Route 1 is the narrow, densely populated area of land (almost 600 people per square kilometer); most of the area has been delineated as a high-yield rice area. Here the province is concentrating on intensive cultivation to increase rice yields, rearing pigs, buffaloes, cattle, chickens, ducks, goats, fish, and shrimp, growing coconut, vegetables, beans, and fruits, and organizing to go up into the north of the province to build new hamlets and villages. The industrial crop area alongside the Vam Co Dong River is concentrating on the intensive cultivation of sugarcane, peanuts, pineapples, etc., in conjunction with expanding livestock raising and developing occupations and trades from the primary level. The northern area of the province is the area with vast land, sparse population (60 people per square kilometer), rich, fertile fields, and considerable uncultivated land. Here the province is concentrating on investing in expanding agriculture in all aspects, in conjunction with afforestation and raising fresh water fish and shrimp.

On the basis of expanding production, Long An is continuing to improve distribution and circulation, first of all stepping up the acquisition of sources of goods while, at the same time, organizing good distribution with a view toward stimulating production. It is expanding the retail sales network, strengthening management of the market, and transforming private commerce by continuing to take over, dominate and surge forward to control the market in such essential items as rice, meat, sugar, flour, soap, vegetables, salt, fuel, sauces, stationery, medication, and family articles.

The congress also set forth measures for strengthening the import-export business and for putting financial and banking operations in even better support of production and daily life.

Implementing these tasks is the process of carrying on the transformation of agriculture in connection with transforming industry and commerce. First of all, rapidly and systematically make land adjustments and form production solidarity teams in all villages and hamlets in the province. Put an end to exploitation through land and heavy interest loans under many forms in the countryside. Endeavor to strengthen, reinforce and further develop cooperatives and production collectives, and implement product contracts.

The process of transforming agriculture is in conjunction with stepping up the scientific and technological revolution and organizing satisfactory implementation of the deployment of laborers and population up to exploit the northern area of the province. The congress affirmed this to be a program comprehensive in nature, simultaneously resolving requirements in building the economy, culture and society while ensuring requirements in strengthening national defense and security for the immediate future and the long term.

The congress decided on a number of measures for strengthening the building of strong party organizations in order to ensure organization of implementation to achieve high effectiveness. The resolution of the congress emphasized strengthening indoctrination to thoroughly and profoundly understand the line and policy of the party, building the resolute stand of the working class in the struggle between the two paths, resisting the expansionism of China, and strengthening solidarity and firmly maintaining the concept of organizing discipline for all party organizations in the province. Attach importance to improving organizational efforts and cadres, especially rational assignments and prompt training, and make everyone satisfactorily complete assigned tasks. Continue to cleanse the ranks of party members, strengthen building of districts connected with building villages and hamlets, and strengthen the primary level in all aspects.

6915

CSO: 4209/463

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

SMALL HYDROELECTRIC POWER STATIONS--Hanoi, 24 Jun (VNA)--More than 60 small-sized hydroelectric power stations with a total capacity of more than 3,000 kws have been restored or built at various localities since 1981. The engineering plants with existing equipment turned out several kinds of hydraulic turbines each with a capacity of from 20 to 1,000 kws, the 200-kw turbine was first installed on the Cung River in Dai Loc District, Quang Nam-Danang Province, and later at a number of cooperatives in Quang Nam-Danang Province and in two hamlets of the northern border province of Cao Bang. The generator unit No 1 with a capacity of 1,000 kws, jointly designed and produced by the Hanoi machine tools factory No 1 and other factories, has just been put into operation at the Phu Ninh irrigation project in Quang Nam-Danang Province. Many small-sized hydroelectric power stations each with a capacity of from 15 to 110 kws were used in the northern provinces of Lang Son and Bac Thai supplying electricity to local industries, pumping stations, farm-produce processing units, and for lighting. Almost all small-sized hydroelectric power stations in Cao Bang Province had been destroyed by Chinese troops in February 1979. But within a very short time, the local population, in cooperation with the state, has restored 5 stations and built 10 new ones. The latter include the Na Tau station with a capacity of 300 kws. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT 24 Jun 83]

CSO: 4200/730

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

SYMPOSIUM ON MEKONG DELTA ENVIRONMENT--Hanoi, 9 Jul (VNA)--A symposium on natural resources and environment in Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong Delta provinces was held in the city from 5 to 6 July. Participating were the representatives of the Vietnam World Environment Day and the Vietnam Center for International Environment Information and more than 200 scientific workers. The 32 papers presented at the symposium dealt with such topics as the baleful effects of herbicides on the environment, the characterizations of soil, water and underground water in Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong Delta, results of the survey of air pollution, waste water in the city and the exploitation and protection of mineral resources in the city. The symposium also heard reports on the possibilities of protecting the sea from pollution during oil prospecting operations and the training of environmental workers. [Text] [OWO91603 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 9 Jul 83]

CSO: 4200/730

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

CURRENT POPULATION STATISTICS VIEWED

Hanoi NGHIEN CUU GIAO DUC in Vietnamese May 83 pp 15-16

[Article by Trinh Quoc Khoi: "A Few Statistics on the Population of Our Country"]

[Text] At the point in time of 0000 on 01 X month 1979, the population of our country was 52,741,600, standing 15th in population and 60th in land area of the more than 150 nations in the world. The population density of our country was 150 per square kilometer. This is the highest population density of the socialist countries and exceeds the average level of the world and of all areas. Thus, our country is one of small land area with a large population and a high population density.

From V month 1975 to X month 1979, the population of our country increased by 5.1 million, an annual average increase of 2.6 percent. At a 2.6 percent increase, the population increases daily by an amount equal to that of a village, about 4,000 people; the average monthly increase is equal to that of a district, approximately 120,000 people; and the annual increase is equal to that of a province, 1.3 million people. Although we have in the past few years made a number of definite achievements in the planned parenthood campaign to reduce the national population growth from 3.2 percent in 1976 to 2.6 percent in 1979, 2.5 percent in the north, the level is still high compared with many other nations in the world. The birth and death rates and the natural population growth in our country differ from one area and locality to another with lower rates in the north than in the south, lower rates in the lowlands than in the highlands and lower rates in the cities than in the rural areas. Presented below are the birth rates, death rates and natural population increases of villages in a number of areas which we studied during 1979:

Area	Birth Rate (%)	Death Rate (%)	Chart 1
			Natural Population (%)
Entire nation	3.25	0.63	2.62
Northern area	3.13	0.64	2.49
Highlands	3.43	0.61	2.82
Lowlands	2.92	0.66	2.26
Southern area	3.37	0.61	2.76
Central Highlands	3.83	0.61	3.22
Mekong Delta	3.55	0.64	2.91

If the population of our country divided by age is presented in a diagram, it forms a pyramid with an extremely large base which rises gradually, increasingly narrows and ends in an extremely sharp peak. This age pyramid indicates that there are many children, few people of labor age and not many old people. If we compare the age population structure of our country with that of other countries in the world, we see:

Chart 2

Population Structure By Age	Vietnam	A Number of Southern Asian Countries %	Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe %
0-14 years old	42.6	43.2	21.5
15-64 years old	52.7	53.0	64.5
65 years and up	4.7	3.0	11.0

The chart above shows that the population structure of our country and that of a number of other countries in southern Asia are similar with a ratio of inhabitants 0 to 14 years of age making up more than 40 percent of the population and an extremely small percentage of those 65 and older; conversely, in the socialist countries of eastern Europe, the ratio of those 0 to 14 years old accounts for nearly 25 percent while the percentage of the aged (65 and older) is nearly twice that of Vietnam. With such an age structure, the population of our country is a young one with characteristics of many births, few deaths and rapid increase. The average life expectancy of our people is gradually rising. In 1960, the average life expectancy of those living in the north was 59, rising to 67 in 1974. In 1979, the average life expectancy of the people in our country was 66; nearly 64 years for men and nearly 68 for women (comparable to the average life expectancy of people living in the Soviet Union in 1960).

According to census statistics for X month 1979, our entire nation had a population of 25,580,582 men and 27,161,184 women. The population difference in men and women has gradually decreased: men increasing from 48 percent in 1976 to 48.5 percent in 1979; and women decreasing from 52 percent to 51.5 percent. The increase in the male population is due to the fact that usually many more male babies are born than female babies (of every 100 births, 52 are male and 48 are female). The percentage of females is: higher in the north than in the south; higher in the rural areas (52.5 percent) than in the cities (52.4 percent); and higher in the agricultural (52.4 percent) than in the nonagricultural (48 percent) areas. The women of Vietnam give birth to many children with an average of five each. Of the total number of women giving birth each year, 60 percent are having their third child or more and 40 percent are having their fourth child. If each woman was encouraged to have only two children, annual births would be cut by 50 percent; and if encouraged to have only three children, births would be cut by 40 percent (the annual number of children born now is 1.7 million). (According to preliminary calculations of the Confederation of Trade Unions, the expenses incurred for each birth amount to at least 1,200 dong (at the old value) and the reduction in births stated above would allow an annual saving of 800,000 to 1,200,000 dong).

Our birth rate in 1981 was 3 percent, a high rate in Asia, sixth of the 10 nations of Southeast Asia and 18th of the 34 Asian and Pacific area nations; up to 3.3 thousandth higher than the average birth rate of these areas. The death rate in Vietnam generally falls in the lower world category, fourth of the 10 nations of Southeast Asia and ninth of the 34 nations in the Asian and Pacific Ocean areas. Our death rate is only about .7 percent while that of the Asian and Pacific Ocean areas reaches 1 percent. A high birth rate and a low death rate causes a fairly high natural population growth of 2.3 percent, fifth of the 10 nations of Southeast Asia and 14th of the 34 nations in the Asian and Pacific Ocean areas. The natural population increase of Vietnam is 37.7 percent higher than that of the entire Asian and Pacific Ocean areas. The rate of population growth at the present time is a heavy burden to the economy and an obstacle in improving the living standards of the people. If the population continues to increase at the present rate, Vietnam by the year 2000 will have a population of up to 85 million. First of all, by the end of the third 5-year plan (1985), the population of our country will be about 60 million.

The population of our country is rapidly increasing and the distribution of population and labor is irregular between areas and localities, creating a great adverse effect on the natural economy and small-scale production. This fact is clearly indicated by the population density (inhabitants per square kilometer) which varies greatly between areas:

Entire Nation	159
Bac Bo Highlands	53
Bac Bo Midlands	328
Red River Delta	629
Former Region 4	134
Central Coastal Area	423
Central Highlands	26
Eastern Nam Bo	253
Mekong Delta	296

Besides Ho Chi Minh City with the greatest population density of 1,149 per square kilometer, there are provinces with a density of more than 500 people per square kilometer such as Hai Hung with 767, Nam Ninh with 690, Thai Binh with 925, Haiphong with 767, and Tien Giang with 529 but there are also many with a population density below 50 per square kilometer such Son La, Lai Chau, Gia Lai-Kon Tum, Lam Dong and Dak Lak.

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CSO: 4209/475

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

HOA HAO PEOPLE LIVING STANDARDS IMPROVE

Hanoi DAI DOAN KET in Vietnamese 22 Jun 83 p 6

[Article by Thai Duy: "Phu Tan - A Hoa Hao District"]

[Text] Up to last year, 1982, there were still Hoa Hao expatriots living in the United States who were writing letters home expressing their concern about whether the Hoa Hao villages and hamlets were being treated with the same equality as the others. Receiving a letter from his younger brother, a man still did not feel assured and inquired again whether it was true that his son had been able to attend college like all the other students. His worries and suspicions were not without foundation because, as related by his younger brother, the man and his entire family during the war upon hearing there were Viet Cong all took up knives and sticks and searched through the forest to find and capture the "infidel troops." The great majority of Hoa Hao people had been bribed and poisoned to such an extent that they reiterated again and again that "as long there is religion, there are no communists and as long as there are communists, there is no religion." They felt that they were at fault with the revolution while the revolution evaluated them in a wise and fair manner based on their specific actions. Within the past half year, the Secretary of the Party Central Committee and the government have continuously praised Phu Tan District in An Giang Province, a district with up to 95 percent of the inhabitants following the Hoa Hao religion and also the location of the Hoa Hao Holy Land, for its achievements in production development, grain contributions, agricultural transformation, etc. and for being included among the nearly 40 most outstanding districts in the entire country.

The district which 8 years before was called by the Americans and puppets a center of communist resistance very similar to the Ho Nai area (of Thong Nhat District in Dong Nai Province) where Catholic refugees were concentrated has now become an attractive place with achievements in water conservancy, intensive cultivation and multicropping and is drawing visitors from all directions to exchange production experience.

On 30 April 1975, the entire district had only 5,000 hectares of high yield rice. By the end of 1982, this had increased by eight times with 40,000 hectares of high yield rice and rice yields rising from nearly 2 tons per hectare (one crop per year) to 8 tons per hectare in 1982 (two crops). Total output prior to liberation day of 52,200 tons for an entire year by 1982 had risen to 164,500 tons.

The grain per capita before liberation of 300 kilograms rose by 1982 to 753 kilograms (not counting subsidiary food crops).

The Hoa Hao district of Phu Tan constantly leads the way in grain contributions, 63,000 tons of paddy in 1982 alone, and in only one crop in 1983, contributed 55,000 tons of paddy to the state.

Upon meeting Ba Thu, Secretary of the Phu Tan District Party Committee, I asked him, "A number of people believe that the soil of Phu Tan allows it to be placed in the level of an average district and even that is a struggle but today it has become an outstanding district. Can you explain to me the reason why?"

He replied, "That was also a question which obsessed me right after liberation. Our Phu Tan could not dare believe that this Hoa Hao area could soon work shoulder to shoulder with other local areas to build socialism. Concerning the success of today, I would first of all like to mention the most fundamental viewpoint of the Phu Tan District Party Committee that since first liberated and ever since, we have increasingly achieved a greater understanding aimed at resolving the historic past, a sorrowful past intentionally caused by the enemy.

"1. Discarding their fixed religious ideas and clearly not distrustful of or prejudiced against their Hoa Hao brethren, the followers of Hoa Hao are all farmers, people of the same class who previously blundered and committed erroneous actions because they were bribed and used by the enemy. From our realization of who was the enemy and who was our friend, it was necessary to give concern to every aspect in the lives of our Hoa Hao compatriots, allowing them to recognize both in a material and spiritual manner that our system was gradually becoming better than the old one.

"2. Strictly complying with the religious policies of the party and government on assuring freedom of religion, we naturally have to know how to distinguish occurrences of superstition in order to promptly halt them.

"First of all, those in the party must thoroughly understand the viewpoints above, truly loving and trusting the Hoa Hao masses. Many party members braved danger in the Hoa Hao area and the number who died there is not small. Many working in the party and administrative organizations had relatives murdered by the Hoa Hao. I myself had many blood relations on my wife's side murdered by the Hoa Hao. Hatred must be directed toward the reactionary ringleaders, absolutely not toward distrust and prejudice for the Hoa Hao masses and farmers. One man moving the grave of an old man killed by the Hoa Hao lost his composure by stating his anger and overflowing abhorrence. The collective gave their opinions and corrective actions were ineffective so the man finally had to be disciplined in order to assure that the party's viewpoint was implemented from beginning to end. Because ours is a rice district and its strength is rice, we first of all had to shift from one to two rice crops per year. This demanded that water conservancy be conducted everywhere with gradual initiative attained in water irrigation and drainage. During August of last year, the people of my district completed 1,019 large and small water conservancy projects, up to 1,350 kilometers if the length of all the ditches, canals and dams are considered. The amount of earth moved was up to 6,234,000 cubic meters. It is also

possible to note that the total grain output of my district has risen by three times over the years prior to liberation, demanding much perspiration from the people and cadres. There is at this time no longer anyone short of food in the district. The district has reassigned 5,000 hectares of farm land to 8,226 families short of land or with no land at all. In our cadre work, we rely primarily on the masses and the masses trust anyone who we promote, train and assign jobs. In the villages, you will meet a number of communist party members admitted during the past few years who come from Hoa Hao families."

I asked him, "In 1982, the district established 10 times the number of production collectives that it did in the three previous years. What was the reason for this unusual change?"

"That is also easy to understand," Ba Thu replied, "the reason for the delay by our district was the same as for many other districts. With the old management apparatus, jobs were contracted that no one wanted to do, everyone was disgusted, meetings were held but no one came and if forced to attend, it was not the head of the family but a young child who was present. It is difficult to explain but no one dared to abandon the contract, the contract was too difficult and there was no way out. Production became stagnated, life went downhill and even water conservancy done well did not effectively develop because the laborers did not want to produce but to work in a disorderly fashion with no one crying and no one wishing to work. The decline in the standard of living here was not simply an economic problem but a lowering also of the political aspects with problems easily occurring in public order and security. We were extremely concerned but thanks to Directive 100 of the Secretariat allowing product contracting to the laborers, the agricultural transformation movement began to revive immediately.

"From a fear of collective work, the farmers began to request admission to collectives, a great many each day. They were extremely receptive and swiftly grasped the new method of working consistent with the aspirations of the people. In 1982 alone, the district established 266 collectives while during the previous years, the movement moved with difficulty, forming only two cooperatives and 20 production collectives. Every location now has a healthy marketing collective, tax payment is swift and public order and security is stronger. Our District Party Committee has emphasized the deliberation and evaluation of any reasons for the changed situation, the rapid change in the rural appearance, promotion of the agricultural transformation movement and simultaneously the successful completion of many other tasks. We all agree that Directive 100 of the Secretariat is the tonic with some saying that when the movement is gasping for breath, Directive 100 saves its life."

Turning to a district hospital under construction, the District Party Secretary said passionately, "My district is like an island with rivers on four sides and lying between the Tien and Hau rivers. Travel is difficult but there is no hospital. For many years, there were only two dispensaries, one in Phu Lam Village and one in the district seat, and there were no doctors or physicians. The seriously ill had to be taken by boat down to Long Xuyen City, 6 hours at a rapid rate, and some patients died on the boat before they reached their destination. The poor found it extremely difficult to pay the boat fare. Many

Hoa Hao people died because they did not receive medicine or a practitioner on time. Since the day of liberation, eight of the 15 villages have acquired dispensaries and maternity wards and every dispensary has a doctor or physician. However, one dispensary to a village is still not enough and we have decided that the first major public project of the district is a 200-bed hospital so the sick will not be required to travel a great distance. The state and people together are contributing all the funds. We have been building the hospital since the first part of 1981 and are about to complete the first phase. Come and visit the hospital and give us your opinion."

It is a district hospital but much greater in size than any other district hospital in the entire country. I visited more than half of the project which is almost completed, consisting of dozens of rooms with more than 100 beds, a hospital office, an ambulance reception area, emergency room, operating room, conference room, doctor's lounge and a maternity area with several private rooms to take care of babies and young children and with modern care equipment. Patients' rooms both on the ground floor and the upper floors all have ceiling fans. This hospital construction project vividly expresses the spirit of the "state and people working together." The district chairman is head of the construction committee for the entire project but directly in command at the work site are several old Hoa Hao gentlemen with much experience in construction. Ly Van Duc, 72 years old who built the magnificent palace of reactionary Hoa Hao ringleader Luong Trong Tuong is supervising the specialists of the entire project, Tran Van Niem, 60 years old, is looking after the materials and many other Hoa Hao people are in charge of accounting, living conditions, iron-work, masonry, etc. Most of the men are working without pay, eating only a lunch at the worksite made of food and grain provided daily by their village compatriots. I met many people carrying gourds, melons and bindweed up to support the work site and before leaving, they visited the more than half of the project which is almost completed. None of them anticipated at all that the revolution would promptly build such a large hospital far exceeding their expectations. Reminding me of the public health facilities left by the old regime, that is the dispensary in the district seat, the Hoa Hao people all compared it "as not equal to the kitchen area or dining room of the new hospital."

Tran Van Niem, a short plump man with a hank of hair on the back of his head, hustles here and there throughout the day in concern for each iron bar and each wooden plank. Up to 3,500 cubic meters of stone had to be transported from San and Sap mountains, 30 to 80 kilometers away, and the bricks had to be purchased all the way in Vinh Long, more than 100 kilometers away by inland waterway. More than one and a half million lot bricks alone were required. A number of Hoa Hao people charged forward to transport the rock and bricks with some families making up to 17 trips in order to reduce state expenditures. I asked Niem, "During the period of temporary occupation by the Americans and puppets, there was a great deal of cement, not like the shortages we have at the present time. The Hoa Hao people have always had a social spirit and are always ready to participate in every task for the common good. Why didn't you build a hospital at that time?"

Niem and Duc both replied, "They would not allow it. Whenever there was money for construction, they built a palace and villas for themselves but nothing for

the people. It is true that now we must conserve on every kilogram of sand and every brick but we are still building a hospital greater than our ability to imagine on Hoa Hao land. One room of the building contains three new electric generators but all the iron and steel has to be scraped up and gleaned, short pieces connected to make long pieces and fully utilized without wasting a single small bit."

Returning to the district, I asked Ba Thu if there were any other public projects following the hospital. He said, "A theater and then a soccer field are the hopes of a great many people, especially the young. There are a great many difficulties in the economy at the present time but the spiritual and material living standards of the Hoa Hao people must be gradually raised. Concern must be given the people although the cadres and party members are living an extremely difficult life under crowded conditions. We motivate each other in the need to carry the banner of socialism to the Hoa Hao area. Naturally, it is not only waving red banners and extended slogan posters. A banner here must be a little more than the sufficient amount of food each year and a little more than good clothing. Superstition must be gradually repelled and every village must have a dispensary, maternity ward, nursery and kindergarten. We must not be satisfied with the number of facilities that we presently have."

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CNO: 4209/475

BIOGRAPHIC

INFORMATION ON VIETNAMESE PERSONALITIES

[The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese-language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisked job title indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.]

Ngọc Bích [NGOCJ BICHS]

*Deputy Secretary of the VCP Committee, Hung Nguyen District, Nghe Tinh Province; his/her article on water conservancy projects appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 1 Jul 83 p 2)

Nguyễn Công Bình [NGUYEENX COONG BINHF]

Chairman of the People's Committee, Tien Giang Province; his article on reforms and reorganization in agricultural production in his province appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 11 Jul 83 p 3)

Nguyễn Chanh [NGUYEENX CHANH]

Vice Minister of Foreign Trade; on 30 June 1983 he led a delegation to Mongolia. (NHAN DAN 9 Jul 83 p 4)

Ngô Quốc Chan [NOONG QUOOCX CHAANS]

Vice Minister of Culture; *President of the Nguyen Du Writers School; on 25 May-8 June 1983 he led a delegation to the USSR. (VAN NGHE 18 Jun 83 p 12)

Nguyễn Châu [NGUYEENX CHAAU]

*Secretary of the VCP Committee, Dien Ban District, Quang Nam-Da Nang; he was quoted in an article on agricultural progress in his district. (LAO DONG No 25, 23 Jun 83 p 1)

Lê Bá Duyệt [LEE BAS ZUY]

*Deputy Director of the Technical Department, Ministry of Marine Products; his article on seaweed research appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Apr 83 p 39)

Phạm Đắc Đạt [PHAMJ DAWCS DATJ]

*Chairman of the People's Committee, Ha Trung District, Thanh Hoa Province; his article "The Important Role of Districts" appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 4 Jul 83 p 2)

Nguyễn Đông [NGUYEENX DOONG]

Standing Member of the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee; Vice Chairman of the People's Committee, Hanoi; on 27 June 1983 he attended a meeting to welcome a Lebanese CP delegation. (NHAN DAN 28 Jun 83 p 1)

Nguyễn Duy Gia [NGUYEENX ZUY GIA]

Director General of the Vietnam State Bank; on 28 June 1983 he was present at a meeting to present a Friendship medal to a Soviet specialist. (NHAN DAN 2 Jul 83 p 4)

Lê Hà [LEE HAF]

Director of the Hanoi Federation of Import-Export Corporations, recently he led a delegation to France. (DOAN KET No 350, Jul 83 p 26)

Phạm Hùng [PHAMJ HUNGF]

Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the VCP; Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers; Minister of Interior; recently he made a speech at a People's Security Forces' ceremony. (NHAN DAN 4 Jul 83 p 3)

Nguyễn Lai [NGUYEENX LAIJ]

*Deputy Director of the Motion Picture Department, Ministry of Culture and Information; his article on scientific and technical progress in the motion picture field in the last 30 years appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC No 4, Apr 83 p 39)

Hoàng Liên [HOANGF LIEEN], *Lieutenant Colonel

His article on vehicle maintenance appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 6 Jul 83 p 2)

Nguyễn Văn Lộc [NGUYEENX VAWN LOOCJ]

*Chairman of the People's Committee, Dien Ban District, Quang Nam-Da Nang; his article on water conservancy projects in his district appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 29 Jun 83 p 2)

Nguyễn Văn Mót [NGUYEENX VAWN MOTS], *Colonel

His comments on events that transpired in the Buon Ma Thuot area in March 1975 appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 3 Jul 83 p 2)

Nguyễn Đình Nam [NGUYEENX DINHF NAM] deceased

Former Deputy Director of the Engineering Department, Ministry of Agriculture; Member of the VCP; he was in retirement at the time of his death. (NHAN DAN 10 Jul 83 p 4)

Nguyễn Văn Nganh [NGUYEENX VAWN NGANHJ]

Charge d'Affaires in Nicaragua; on 23 June 1983 he attended a meeting between Daniel Ortega and a Hanoi delegation. (NHAN DAN 29 Jun 83 p 4)

Hoàng Hữu Nghĩa [HOANGF HUWUX NGHIA]

*Deputy Director of the Power Service, Ho Chi Minh City; he was quoted in an article in the cited source on power distribution and use in Ho Chi Minh City. (NHAN DAN 7 Jul 83 p 3)

Le Hoàng Oanh [LEE HOANGF OANH], *Lieutenant Colonel

Commander of the 34th Medical Unit, Rear Services General Department serving in Laos; a photo of him in the operating room appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 30 Jun 83 p 3)

Tráng A Pao [TRANGS A PAO]

Alternate Member of the VCP Central Committee; Secretary of the VCP Committee, Bac Ha District, Hoang Lien Son Province; his article on settlement of nomads and building of fortresses in border regions appeared in the cited source. (DAI DOAN KET No 13, 22 Jun 83 p 4)

Phan Nhu Sâm [PHAN NHUW SAAM]

*Ambassador to Australia; on 30 June 1983 he was present at a meeting between Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Hayden and Pham Van Dong in Hanoi. (NHAN DAN 1 Jul 83 p 1)

Nguyễn Văn Tân [NGUYEENX VAWN TAANS] deceased

Member of the VCP; former Director of the Post and Telegraph Service, Hong Quang Region; former specialist of the Post and Telegraph General Department; born in Hanoi in 1902, he died on 27 June 1983. (NHAN DAN 28 Jun 83 p 4)

Ba Thu [BA THU]

*Secretary of the VCP Committee, Phu Tan District, An Giang Province; he was interviewed on the latest achievements of his district for the article: "Phu Tan--A Hoa Hao District" in the cited source. (DAI DOAN KET No 13, 22 Jun 83 p 6)

Nguyễn Hữu Trức [NGUYEENX HUWUX TRUWCJ]

*Secretary of the VCP Committee, Phu My District, Nghia Binh Province; his article on water conservancy projects in his district appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 29 Jun 83 p 2)

Bùi Văn Tỉnh [BUIF VAWN TINHF]

*Chairman of the People's Committee, Yen Thuy District, Ha Son Binh Province; his article on water conservancy in his district appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 8 Jul 83 p 2)

Vũ Văn Tu [VUX VAWN TUJ] deceased

Former Secretary of the Party Committee; Vice President of Agriculture College No 2; born on 12 May 1922 in Dong Hung District, Thai Binh Province, he was in retirement at the time of his death on 24 June 1983. (NHAN DAN 28 Jun 83 p 4)

Hoàng Xuân Tuý [HOANGF XUAAN TUYF]

Vice Minister of Higher and Vocational Education; on 8 July 1983 he made a speech at a ceremony to award the Friendship medal to six Soviet language teachers in Hanoi. (NHAN DAN 10 Jul 83 p 4)

Lê Thanh Vân [LEE THANH VAAN]

Director of the Public Security Service, Ho Chi Minh City; his article on the role of youths in protecting the fatherland and social security appeared in the cited source. (THANH NIEN May 83 p 9)

Khái Vinh [KHAIS VINH]

*Vice President of the Nguyen Du Writers School; on 25 May-8 June 1983 he was part of a delegation visiting the USSR. (VAN NGHE 18 Jun 83 p 12)

Trần Anh Vinh [TRAANF ANH VINH]

Vice Minister of Mines and Coal; his article on quality control of coal appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 28 Jun 83 p 2)

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